

INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

ANTI-IRANIAN



Russian President Dmitry Medvedev speaks during an annual Russia German forum in the Ural Mountains city of Yekaterinburg, about 1,500 kilometers (900 miles) east of Moscow, Russia, Thursday, July 15, 2010. Russia's president urged Iran on Thursday to find the courage to cooperate with the international community over its disputed nuclear program. Medvedev had expressed concern this week that Iran was getting closer to being able to develop nuclear weapons.

Read more on Page A7

SPORTS NEWS

STANDARDS MET



In this Aug. 14, 2009, file photo, New York Jets football helmets sit on the field at Giants Stadium before a football game between the Jets and the St. Louis Rams in East Rutherford, N.J.

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Vessels are seen at dusk from the deck of the Coast Guard Cutter Decisive at the Deepwater Horizon oil spill site in the Gulf of Mexico, off the Louisiana coast, Thursday, July 22, 2010. Key ships stationed over BP's crippled well in the Gulf of Mexico were ordered to evacuate Thursday ahead of Tropical Storm Bonnie, but engineers have grown so confident in the leaky cap fixed to well head that they will leave it closed while they are gone.

Associated Press

Tropical Storm could take away sights and sounds of BP well

Read Page 3

N. Korea: "Nuclear deterrence" to U.S./ S. Korea war games

JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press Writer

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — North Korea inflamed tensions over the deadly sinking of a South Korean warship by threatening the United States and South Korea on Saturday with "nuclear deterrence" if they carry out naval maneuvers this weekend.

Pyongyang often resorts to sabre-rattling during a crisis, but the escalation of rhetoric to nuclear fears and counter-threats came during an ASEAN summit in Hanoi.

Continued on Page 6



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton attends the 17th ASEAN Regional forum Retreat meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam Friday, July 23, 2010.

Associated Press

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Charles Moran, press secretary of the Log Cabin Republicans, is photographed outside federal court Tuesday, July 13, 2010 in Riverside, Calif. at the non-jury trial of a lawsuit filed by the Log Cabin Republicans against the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Associated Press

MILITARY BAN

Continued from Front Page

Attorney Dan Woods, who represents the 19,000-member Republican group, argued the policy violates the constitutional rights of gay military members to free speech, due process and open association.

"Log Cabin Republicans have brought this case to trial to

call out the government on the wrong it's doing on current and future homosexuals who wish to serve their country. We ask you to do them right," Woods told Phillips.

The case is unique in that it is not based on an individual's complaint but rather is a sweeping attack on the policy. It is the biggest legal test of the law in recent years.

The trial could not come at a worse time for President Barack Obama, who has criticized the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy for gays since taking office last year but has failed to get Congress to repeal it.

U.S. Department of Justice attorney Paul G. Freeborne said during his closing argument that Woods was asking the judge to go beyond her powers.

"We do not believe the court has the authority to issue a nationwide injunction," he said.

The U.S. House of Representatives voted May 27 to repeal the policy, and the Senate is expected to take up the issue this summer. In deciding to hear the challenge, Phillips said the "possibility that action by the legislative and executive branches will moot this case is sufficiently remote."

During the trial, plaintiffs presented seven expert witnesses and six military officers who have been

discharged under the policy. Lawyers also submitted remarks by Obama stating "don't ask, don't tell" weakens national security.

Woods asked Phillips to impose a permanent injunction that would prevent the policy from being applied not only within the U.S. but anywhere in the world.

"Even if 'don't ask, don't tell' once did further an important government interest, it no longer does so," Woods told the judge.

Government attorneys have said Congress should decide the fate of the policy — not a federal judge. They presented only the policy's legislative history in their defense.

"Don't ask, don't tell" prohibits the military from asking about the sexual orientation of service members but requires discharge of those who acknowledge being gay or are discovered to be engaging in homosexual activity, even in the privacy of their own homes off base.

The Log Cabin Republicans,

which includes former and current members of the military, said more than 13,500 service members have been fired under the law since 1994.

Testimony from former service members ranged from a decorated Air Force officer who was let go after his peers snoopied through his personal e-mail in Iraq, to a sailor whose supervisor concluded he was gay after he refused to visit prostitutes.

Woods argued the policy harms military readiness and unit cohesion by getting rid of talented people. He pointed out the military has relaxed its standards and now allows convicted felons to make up for a shortage of personnel while the country is at war.

"In other words, our military will give a convicted felon a gun but will not give a gay guy a typewriter," he said.

Freeborne told the court Obama's statements criticizing the policy underscored that the decision should be made in the political arena. □



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Tropical Storm could take away sights and sounds of BP well

DAVID DISHNEAU
HARRY R. WEBER

Associated Press Writers

ON THE GULF OF MEXICO (AP) — Ships monitoring BP's broken oil well stood fast Friday as the remnants of Tropical Storm Bonnie blew toward the spill site, threatening to force a full evacuation that would leave engineers clueless about whether a makeshift cap on the gusher was holding. Vessels connected to deep-sea robots equipped with cameras and seismic devices would be among the last to flee and would ride out the rough weather if possible, retired Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen said.

"If conditions allow, they will remain through the passage of the storm," Allen said in New Orleans.

Bonnie made landfall south of Miami early Friday as a feeble tropical storm with top sustained winds of 40 mph. It broke apart as it crossed Florida and was a tropical depression as it moved into the Gulf, but forecasters expected it to strengthen slightly and roll over the spill site around midday Saturday.

Some of the dozens of vessels working at the well site were leaving Friday evening. By daybreak, all but a handful, including those providing video images, were expected to remain. Allen said individual captains would decide when to leave, based on weather conditions.

The ships holding the robots would be among the first to return if forecasts force them to leave, but they could be gone for up to two days, said Allen, the federal government's spill chief.

The mechanical plug that has mostly contained the oil for eight days will be left closed, Allen said. But if the robots are reeled in, the only way officials will know whether the cap has failed will be if oil pooling on the surface appears in satellite and aerial views — provided the clouds aren't too thick.

Audio surveillance gear left behind could tell BP whether the well is still stable, but scientists won't be able to

listen to the recordings until the ships return to the area.

Allen expressed increasing confidence in the experimental cap despite a few leaks that initially worried government experts. Scientists say even a severe storm shouldn't affect the plug, nearly a mile beneath the ocean surface 40 miles from the Louisiana coast.

"There's almost no chance it'll have any impact on the wellhead or the cap because it's right around 5,000 feet deep and even the largest waves won't get down that far," said Don Van Nieuwenhuise, director of professional geoscience programs at the University of Houston.

Crews of other vessels, including one boring the tunnel meant to kill the flow of crude for good, spent Friday pulling up their gear and getting out of the storm's way. Workers were pulling up a mile of pipe in 40 foot to 60 foot sections and laying it on deck of the drilling rig so they could move to safer water, probably to the southwest flank of the storm.

"Preservation of life and preservation of equipment are our highest priorities," said Allen, a veteran of the Coast Guard's rescue mission after Hurricane Katrina.

Shell Oil was also evacuating its operations in the Gulf, moving out more than 600 workers and shutting down production at all but one well sheltered safely in Mobile



The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Decisive is seen at the Deepwater Horizon oil spill site in the Gulf of Mexico, off the Louisiana coast, Thursday, July 22, 2010.

Associated Press

Bay.

At the spill site, the water no longer looks thick with gooeey tar. But the oil is still there beneath the surface, staining the hulls of boats motoring around in it.

Strong winds and waves could help break up the oil further, but a storm surge also might push it into sensitive marsh areas along the coast.

"Those are two opposite consequences and we're prepared to move out and aggressively attack this once the threat has passed through," he said.

The foul weather has stalled progress toward killing the well and could delay until

mid-August the sealing of the nearly two-mile underground shaft using mud and cement, Allen and BP say. BP had hoped to finish drilling a relief tunnel Friday, but had to plug it Wednesday to prepare for the storm.

Before the cap was attached and closed a week ago, the broken well spewed 94 million gallons to 184 million gallons into the Gulf after the BP-leased Deepwater Horizon rig exploded April 20, killing 11 workers.

Also Friday, an electronics technician told an investigative panel that an alarm system was partially shut down the day the ill-fated oil rig Deepwater Horizon exploded in the Gulf of Mexico. Technician Mike

Williams told the panel that the alarm system was turned on to monitor for fire, explosive gas and toxic gas but that its sound and light alarms had been disabled. Williams said he was told the company didn't want a false alarm waking people at night. He spoke to the Marine Accident Investigation panel was meeting in Kenner, Louisiana. It is made up of Coast Guard members and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement.

Later, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which also is investigating the spill, asked Transocean Ltd. for documents concerning safety and the condition of equipment on the rig. □

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White House predicts record \$1.47 trillion deficit



President Barack Obama delivers remarks on the economy in the Roosevelt Room of the White House in Washington, Friday, July 23, 2010.

Associated Press

ANDREW TAYLOR

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—New estimates from the White House on Friday predict the budget deficit will reach a record \$1.47 trillion this year. The U.S. government is borrowing 41 cents of every dollar it spends.

That's actually a little better than the administration predicted in February.

The new estimates paint a grim unemployment picture as the economy experiences a relatively jobless recovery. The unemployment rate, presently averaging 9.5 percent, would average 9 percent next year under the new estimates.

The Office of Management and Budget report has ominous news for President Barack Obama should he seek re-election in 2012 — a still-high unemployment rate of 8.1 percent. That would be well above normal, which is closer to a rate of 5.5 percent to 6 percent. Private economists don't think the unemployment rate will drop to those levels until well into this decade.

"The U.S. economy still faces strong headwinds," the OMB report said. They include tight credit markets, a high inventory of unsold housing and retrenchment by state governments bound by balanced budget mandates. The European debt crisis has also had an impact.

"Despite these headwinds, the administration expects economic growth and job creation to continue for the rest of 2010 and to rise in 2011 and beyond," the report said.

The gaping deficits are of increasing concern to voters. But Obama and Democrats controlling Congress are mostly taking a pass on deficit reduction this year as they await possible recommendations from Obama's deficit commission.

While there's a slight improvement in the

deficit for the current year compared to the administration's February forecast, next year's predicted \$1.42 trillion worth, next year's predicted \$1.42 trillion worth of red ink — that's 37 cents of borrowing for every dollar spent — is looking worse. It's about \$150 billion more than previously predicted, because of still-slumping tax revenues.

The current record holder is the \$1.41 trillion deficit for 2009.

Economists agree that the most important measure of the deficit is against the size of the economy. Opinions vary, but many economists say a deficit of 3 percent of gross domestic product is sustainable since it would stabilize the overall debt when measured relative to the economy.

The report put the deficit at 10 percent of GDP this year and 9.2 percent of GDP next year. It would never reach the 3 percent figure under Obama's predictions — which underestimate war costs and depend on assumptions of tax increases that may not materialize.

OMB Director Peter Orszag said the numbers represent a "fiscal situation that requires attention."

Obama "has done little to confront this domestic enemy," said Rep. Mike Pence, an Indiana Republican. "Washington desperately needs real leadership. We cannot continue to postpone the hard choices and sacrifices that are necessary to stop this fiscal train wreck." Deficits have skyrocketed since the recession took hold in 2008 and Congress responded with a massive bailout of the financial system and last year's \$862 billion stimulus measure. "What we should be doing now is putting in place deficit reduction policies that will kick in after the economy has more fully recovered," said Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad of North Dakota. "It is an unsustainable long-term course." □



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"FAVI FUNDACION CU VISION"

Mexican official charged with aiding drug dealing

ELLIOT SPAGAT

Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — A Mexican law enforcement official who worked with U.S. authorities was charged with sharing confidential information with drug traffickers and arranging the arrests of his drug boss' rivals, according to a far-reaching indictment against a gang that ferries drugs along California's border with Mexico. Jesus Quinones, the international liaison for the Baja California state attorney general's office, was among 43 defendants named in the federal racketeering complaint that alleges murder, kidnapping and other crimes. They are accused of working for Fernando Sanchez Arellano, who is widely considered the most-wanted drug kingpin in Tijuana, Mexico. Quinones and 30 others are in custody, while 12 defendants remained at-large, authorities said. Most of the arrests occurred Thursday and Friday — 27 in the San Diego area and four in Mexico.

Quinones, 49, was arrested Thursday in San Diego during a traffic stop. He was a primary point of contact in Baja for U.S. law enforcement agencies and was a familiar figure at cross-border gatherings of government officials, including a Fourth of July party this month at the home of the U.S. consul general in Tijuana.

"We had a strong relationship with him, most of the (U.S.) agencies — federal, state and local," said Keith Slotter, special agent in charge of the FBI's San Diego office. "It was disturbing when he got caught up in this." The indictment alleges that Quinones shared "information" with a cartel associate in March about a triple homicide in Tijuana. Days later, the associate, Jose Alfredo Najera Gil, phoned another cartel operative to report that Quinones was hoping the drug traffickers would buy him an apartment. Quinones did not respond to a message left on his cell phone

by The Associated Press. Jose Manuel Yepiz, a spokesman for the Baja attorney general, said his office had no immediate comment. The arrest comes at a time of growing cooperation between U.S. and Mexican authorities working to topple Mexican-based drug cartels whose primary market is the United States. Mexico's

attorney general says at least 24,800 people have been killed in drug-gang violence since President Felipe Calderon launched his military-led offensive in 2006.

U.S. Attorney Laura Duffy said none of the information that Quinones allegedly shared jeopardized anyone's safety. □



U.S. Attorney Laura Duffy holds up an unsealed indictment at a news conference held in San Diego Friday July 23, 2010. The indictment charges 43 defendants with RICO conspiracy related to border violence and drug trafficking.

Associated Press

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Ri Tong Il, center, spokesman for North Korean Foreign Minister Pak Ui Chun's delegation is surrounded by the media at the main venue of the ASEAN Regional Forum in Hanoi, Vietnam Thursday, July 22, 2010. Pak, North Korea's top diplomat will likely be on a damage control mission this week at an Asian security meeting, pleading innocent to the sinking of a South Korean warship that killed 46 sailors and has been widely blamed on Pyongyang.

Associated Press

ASEAN FORUM

Continued from Front Page

"The army and people of the DPRK will start a retaliatory sacred war of their own style based on nuclear deterrent any time necessary in order to counter the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet forces deliberately pushing the situation to the brink of a war," North Korea's official news agency said.

It referred to North Korea's formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), and added: "All these war maneuvers are nothing but outright provocations aimed to stifle the DPRK by force of arms to all intents and purposes."

"The army and people of the DPRK will legitimately counter with their powerful nuclear deterrence the largest-ever nuclear war

exercises to be staged by the U.S. and the south Korean puppet forces," said the statement carried by the Korean Central News Agency.

The latest threat came four months after the sinking of a South Korean warship that killed 46 sailors. The North has been blamed, but vehemently denies any involvement.

In Vietnam for a Southeast Asian regional security forum, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and a North Korean official traded barbs over the sinking, the four-day military drills beginning Sunday and the imposition of new U.S. sanctions against the North.

Also Friday, the U.S.-led military command monitoring the cease-fire on the Korean peninsula confronted the North about

the March 26 sinking of the Cheonan, calling it a violation of the armistice that ended the 1950-53 Korean war. Colonels from the U.N. Command, who met at the border with counterparts from the North's army, reminded them of the U.N. Security Council order to honor the truce. Officers also proposed a joint task force to discuss armistice violations, the military commission said in a statement.

A team of international investigators concluded in May that a North Korean submarine fired the torpedo that sank the Cheonan. The U.N. Security Council approved a presidential statement this month condemning the sinking, but did not directly blame Pyongyang.

The U.N. Command, however, blames North Korea and considers the sinking a violation of the cease-fire, a command official said Friday, speaking on condition of anonymity because the results of the command's own investigation have not been released.

At the Association of Southeast Asian Nations meeting in Hanoi, North Korean spokesman Ri Tong Il repeated Pyongyang's denial of responsibility for the sinking. He said the upcoming military drills — to be conducted in the Sea of Japan off Korea's east coast and in the Yellow Sea closer to China's shores — were a violation of its sovereignty that harkened back to the days of 19th-century "gunboat diplomacy."

The exercises will be "another expression of hostile policy against" North Korea. "There will be physical response against the threat imposed by the United States militarily," Ri told reporters.

Clinton responded by saying the U.S. is willing to meet and negotiate with the North, but that this type

of threat only heightens tensions. She added that progress in the short term seems unlikely.

"It is distressing when North Korea continues its threats and causes so much anxiety among its neighbors and the larger region," she told reporters. "But we will demonstrate once again with our military exercises ... that the United States stands in firm support of the defense of South Korea and we will continue to do so." Shortly before Ri spoke, Clinton had lashed out against belligerent acts by the North, warning Pyongyang must reverse a "campaign of provocative, dangerous behavior" if it wants improved relations with its neighbors and the United States.

She said stability in the region, particularly on the Korean peninsula, depends in large part on persuading an "isolated and belligerent" North Korea to alter course and return to nuclear disarmament talks which it pulled out of last year.

Members of the U.S. and North Korean delegations did not meet at the annual ASEAN Regional Forum, which has in the past been a venue for talks between the two sides. The 27-member bloc — 10 members of ASEAN and countries with major interests in the area like the U.S., China, Japan, North and South Korea and Russia — expressed "deep concern" over the Cheonan's sinking in a joint statement, a weakened version of an earlier ASEAN statement.

On Wednesday, Clinton announced in the South Korean capital that the U.S. would slap new sanctions on the North to stifle its nuclear ambitions and punish it for the sinking of the South Korean ship. The penalties will target the country's elite by taking aim at illicit activities, such as counterfeiting cigarettes and cash and money laundering.

On Friday, the European Union said it will also consider imposing new sanctions on the North.

In addition to North Korea's behavior and its nuclear program, Clinton raised concerns about potential atomic collaboration between the North and Myanmar, also known as Burma, which is restricted by U.N. agreements.

Numerous reports in past months have suggested that Myanmar's military rulers are attempting to develop nuclear weapons with North Korean help.

Clinton lambasted Myanmar for its dismal human rights record and called on its military junta to hold free and fair elections this year and release political prisoners, including Nobel Peace laureate and democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi.

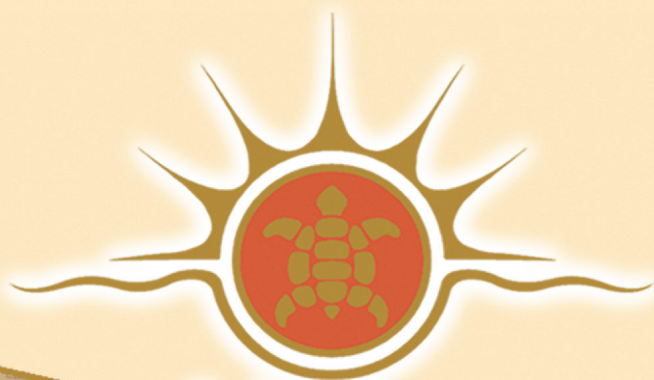
Clinton's comments on Myanmar echoed those of previous U.S. administrations, but they come as President Barack Obama has made a push for expanded engagement with Southeast Asia.

In an indication of increased involvement, Clinton said "the United States has a national interest" in resolving conflicting claims over the Spratly and Paracel island chains in the South China Sea, particularly between China and Vietnam.

She said the disputes interfere with maritime commerce, hamper access to international waters in the area and undermine the U.N. law of the sea.

Her remarks are likely to anger China, which asserts sovereignty over the whole South China Sea, but Clinton said the U.S. did not support any country's sovereignty over the islands. She said the U.S. is willing to work with the all the parties, including Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia, Brunei, and the Philippines, to help negotiate an end to the disputes. □





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Ahmadinejad says Russia part of anti-Iran campaign

ALI AKBAR DAREINI
Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad accused Russia's president on Friday of turning against Tehran and joining the U.S. in spreading lies about its nuclear program, in the latest sign that Iran is drifting apart from a one-time key backer.

Ahmadinejad said Dmitry Medvedev entered a "propaganda drama" directed by Washington by saying last week that Iran was getting closer to being able to develop nuclear weapons.

The Iranian president has had harsh words for Moscow since it became apparent that Russia would support last month's new United Nations sanctions against Tehran for its refusal to stop parts of its nuclear program. In the past, Iran had depended on allies Russia and China — and their veto power at the Security Council — to block tough penalties.

"Russia is a great nation and we are interested in

continuing friendship between the two nations but his (Medvedev's) remarks are part of a propaganda drama that is to be carried out by the U.S. president against the Iranian nation," Ahmadinejad said in a speech posted on his website Friday.

"In fact, Mr. Medvedev has kick-started this drama," he said.

Russia is in a difficult position in the international standoff with Iran, in part because it does not want to jeopardize decades of political and trade ties with the country. Still, Moscow has lately shown increasing frustration with Iran, and last month backed the new sanctions.

Iran insists its nuclear work is only for generating power and other peaceful uses. The U.S. and its allies accuse Iran of using its civilian nuclear program as a cover to develop a nuclear weapons capability.

Medvedev said last week that although Iran is "an active and trusted trading partner ... this does not mean we don't care how

it develops its nuclear program and what its military components look like. In this respect we expect explanations from Iran."

He also urged Iran to find the courage to cooperate with the international community over its disputed nuclear program.

On Friday, Ahmadinejad answered back, saying Medvedev was joining the U.S. against Iran and harming Russia's interests. Ahmadinejad first delivered unusual criticism of Medvedev in May, accusing him of caving in to U.S. pressure for new sanctions, saying "justifying the behavior of Mr. Medvedev today has become very difficult."

Russia has a series of energy and weapons contracts with Iran, including a batch of sophisticated S-300 ground-to-air defense missiles.

Last month, the Russian government said the new U.N. sanctions forbid delivering the weapons, while Iranian officials later insisted the sanctions don't cover contracts signed



In this June 20, 2010 file photo, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad speaks in the International Conference of Islamic World Publishers, in Tehran, Iran. Ahmadinejad says Tehran will not hold talks with the West over its disputed nuclear program until late August to "punish" world powers for imposing tougher economic sanctions. The U.N. Security Council approved new sanctions against Iran earlier this month over Tehran's refusal to halt uranium enrichment.

Associated Press

before the restrictions entered force.

Russia and Iran penned the S-300 agreement in 2007, but their delivery has stalled amid pressure from the West.

Last week, Sergei Chemezov, the head of the state-owned industrial giant

Russian Technologies, said the contract had not been annulled pending a decision from the president.

The truck-mounted S-300 missiles can target aircraft, low-flying cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles, according to weapons experts. □



Venezuela warns Colombia amid latest tensions

FABIOLA SANCHEZ

Associated Press Writer

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's defense minister on Friday warned Colombia against provoking a conflict after President Hugo Chavez severed ties with the neighboring country and placed his military on alert.

Defense Minister Carlos Mata read a statement on state television promising "a strong response" if foreign forces cross into Venezuelan territory.

Chavez announced he was breaking off diplomatic relations Thursday, accusing Colombia's U.S.-allied government of fabricating evidence showing Colombian rebel bases inside Venezuela. Despite the tensions, cars and pedestrians moved between the countries as usual at border crossings Friday, officials on both sides said. Venezuelan Vice President Elias Jaua called the situation on the border normal.

The diplomatic dispute over the presence of Colombian rebels in Venezuela has worsened just as Colombian President Alvaro



Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez, front, gestures prior to a welcoming ceremony for Abkhazia's President Sergei Bagapsh and South Ossetia's President Eduard Kokoity at Miraflores presidential palace in Caracas, Venezuela, Friday, July 23, 2010.

Associated Press

Turkish court orders arrest of 102 in coup plot



Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, speaks and gestures during a press conference after talks with his Serbian counterpart Mirko Cvetkovic, in Belgrade, Serbia, Monday, July 12, 2010. Erdogan arrived on a two-day official visit to Serbia.

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — A court ordered the arrest Friday of 102 people, including at least three retired military commanders, to be jailed pending trial on charges of conspiring in 2003 to overthrow the Islamic-rooted government in a coup plot. The court set the trial date as Dec. 16. It had indicted a total of 196 people on Monday, accusing them of planning

to create chaos and pave the way for a military takeover in an alleged conspiracy dubbed "Sledgehammer."

Police are now expected to round up 102 of those people, including Ret. Gen. Dogan Cetin, former commander of Turkey's first army, former naval force commander Ozden Ornek and former air force commander Ibrahim Firtina. The rest of those indicted will remain free.

The accused face up to 20 years in prison if convicted of attempting to bring down the government and having membership in an illegal organization.

Most were detained in February — but subsequently released — after a newspaper, Taraf, published what it said were leaked copies of documents detailing their plans.

The newspaper claimed the officers and others plotted to blow up mosques in the hopes of stirring chaos that could trigger a military takeover, and even planned to turn stadiums into open-air prisons capable of holding tens of thousands of people if they challenged the troops. The newspaper handed over the documents to

prosecutors.

The military, which has overthrown four governments since 1960, has denied such a plot, insisting the documents were from a military training seminar during which officers simulated an internal strife scenario.

More than 400 people, including pro-secular academics, journalists and politicians and soldiers, are already on trial on separate charges of plotting to bring down the government. That group is suspected in attacks on a newspaper and a courthouse, and plots to kill Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Nobel laureate Orhan Pamuk.

Critics allege the cases are built on flimsy evidence and illegal wiretaps.

They say the accusations are a government attempt to silence opponents who accuse Erdogan of trying to undermine Turkey's secular Constitution, a charge that he denies.

The court cases reflect the growing confidence of civilian power in Turkey, whose politics were once dominated by the military. □

Uribe prepares to leave office.

Uribe has frequently feuded with Venezuela's socialist leader, and Colombian officials have long complained, mostly in private, that Chavez has harbored leaders of its two main rebel groups.

President-elect Juan Manuel Santos, however, has stressed the importance of mending trade relations with Venezuela that overwhelmingly benefit Colombia's food producers. And Chavez has raised the possibility that relations could be restored under Santos.

Trade between Venezuela and Colombia has fallen 70 percent since Chavez froze relations a year ago in response to Colombia's decision to grant the U.S. military expanded access to its military bases. The scaled-back relations have also hurt Venezuelan consumers, as sporadic shortages of items like beef — once imported from Colombia — have worsened.

At a meeting of the Organization of American States in Washington on Thursday, Colombian Ambassador Luis Alfonso Hoyos presented photos, videos, witness testimony and maps of what he said were rebel camps inside Venezuela and challenged Venezuelan officials to let independent observers visit them.

He said roughly 1,500 rebels are hiding in Venezuela and he displayed aerial photographs of what he identified as rebel camps inside Venezuela. He also showed photos and video of rebel leaders that he said were taken at the camps by guerrillas who recently surrendered to the government.

Chavez suggested Uribe could be attempting to provoke a war, and he insisted Venezuela does everything possible to prevent members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia and the smaller National Liberation Army from crossing into Venezuelan territory.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Nicolas Maduro announced Thursday that Chavez's government had closed its embassy in Bogota and demanded that Colombia's ambassador in Caracas leave the country within 72 hours.

Chavez's envoy to the OAS, Roy Chaderton, said the photographs that Hoyos showed didn't provide any solid evidence of a guerrilla presence in Venezuela.

Chavez suggested the photographs could be bogus, saying Uribe "is capable of anything."

Chavez has argued in the past that U.S. officials are using Colombia to portray him as a supporter of terrorist groups to justify U.S. military intervention in Venezuela. □

1 dead, 42 injured as Swiss tourist train derails

BRADLEY S. KLAPPER

Associated Press Writer

GENEVA (AP) —

Switzerland's popular Glacier Express tourist train derailed Friday in the Alps, killing one person and injuring 42 others on its spectacular journey between Zermatt and St. Moritz.

Police said 12 of the injured were in serious condition and most of the passengers were Japanese tourists.

Rescue workers were seen loading a few injured passengers onto medical helicopters to be flown out for treatment. Police declined to identify the person who died.

Rail interruptions, let alone accidents, are rare in Switzerland.

The Glacier Express — dubbed the “slowest express train in the world” — is known as much for its majestic mountain climbs as for its pedestrian 18 mph average speed.

Valais authorities said two of the train cars drove off the tracks and a third tipped over, but the cause of the accident wasn't immediately

known. The three cars were at the back of the train and the derailment took place near the town of Fiesch and the mouth of the Aletsch glacier, Europe's largest icemass.

Rail traffic remained closed near the accident site Friday evening and local police were investigating.

The 80-year-old Glacier Express runs several times a day all year round, carrying some 250,000 passengers a year.

It starts in Zermatt, at the base of Switzerland's iconic Matterhorn mountain, and rumbles through terrain over a mile above sea level, surrounded by many of the highest Alpine peaks. After 7 1/2 hours, 291 bridges and 91 tunnels, it ends in St. Moritz — one of the world's ritziest winter resorts. Train cars have special large windows that sweep high onto the roof so tourists can take in the vast mountain vistas.

A celebration of Swiss engineering, the Glacier Express offers breathtaking views of mountains, glaciers,



A fire fighter is looking at a damaged carriage of a Glacier Express passenger train at the accident site in Fiesch, Switzerland, Friday, July 23, 2010. A popular tourist train travelling between Lax and Fiesch in canton Valais derailed on Friday, leaving at least 15 people injured.

Associated Press

viaducts across rushing streams and switchback rail lines that sometimes go in full circles to spiral up or down the steepest slopes.

The accident was the country's worst rail mishap since 2006, when three men died after a runaway train traveled for miles without brakes before crashing into another train. □

18 bodies found at northern Mexico dumping ground

MARK STEVENSON,

Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Authorities found the remains of at least 18 people in a series of pits and scattered on the ground at a suspected drug-gang dumping site near the industrial hub of Monterrey in northern Mexico, an official said Friday.

Investigators were using heavy equipment to search for more bodies at the rural site outside Mexico's third-largest city, local media said. Photographs showed charred spots on the soil suggesting some bodies may have been partially burned.

The state attorney general's office in Nuevo Leon state, where Monterrey is located, said more heavy equipment was being brought in to search the ground and pits where the remains were found.

The bodies were too badly decomposed for immediate identification, the office said.

The clandestine grave site, which was discovered Thursday, was believed to have been used by drug gangs that operate in the

area.

The Mexican army did not offer any immediate information on how the site was detected.

Nearly 25,000 people have been killed in Mexico since the government launched an offensive against drug cartels in late 2006.

Cartel hit men have been known to use mass dumping sites to dispose of their victims. In late May, police in the central Mexico tourist town of Taxco discovered 55 bodies in an abandoned silver mine.

Speaking at a military academy graduation ceremony Friday, President Felipe Calderon praised the army's role in the drug fight and called the drug cartels “the greatest threat to the well-being and progress of Mexican families, and the greatest danger to the liberties that our country's founders gave their lives to obtain for us.”

Calderon said that “our determination is not only not to take a single step backward, but to carry on decisively with this fight, to persevere in the effort until we reach the victory that Mexico deserves.” □

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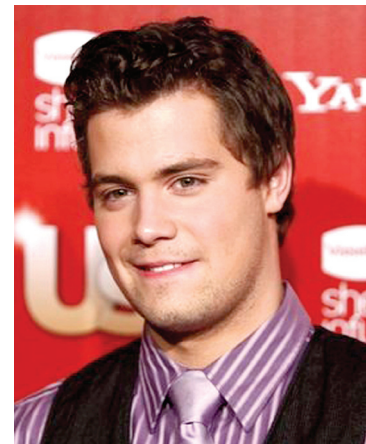
Palin fiance Levi Johnston to film music video

By LYNN ELBER,
AP Entertainment Writer
LOS ANGELES — Levi Johnston will make his music video debut as a lover whose romance is thwarted by his girlfriend's disapproving mother, according to a Universal Music Group record label and Johnston's attorney. Johnston, 20, who is Bristol Palin's fiance, has agreed to appear in the video with singer-songwriter Brittani Senser next month in Los Angeles. The project is based on the song "After Love" by Senser, 26, a sultry-looking R&B and pop performer from Minneapolis. "He's looking forward to doing it," Rex Butler, Johnston's

attorney in Anchorage, Alaska, said Friday. "It will give him an opportunity to act a little bit in front of a camera. He's done a commercial before, but something like this is a little more involved." Johnston recently become re-engaged to Palin, 19, the daughter of former Republican vice presidential candidate and Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin. Bristol Palin, who has a toddler son with Johnston, has said her mother doesn't support the couple's marriage. According to a written description of the video's story line, the couple share tender moments before they are driven apart by the young woman's mother. Unaware

that her mom's interference forced her boyfriend to go, she "throws herself into her mother's arms. She tells her mother that she was wrong about Levi." Asked if there might be concerns about Sarah Palin's reaction to the project, Butler replied: "I don't think we're going to be concerned about what Gov. Palin would want. I think that given the script, he (Johnston) should be able to turn in a good performance." Johnston and Senser are scheduled to shoot the video on location in Los Angeles on Aug. 9, the day after the pair attend the Teen Choice Awards, according to Butler and Senser's publicist, Belinda Foster. Johnston went to the ceremony last year with comedian Kathy Griffin.

Senser said she'd be glad to have Bristol Palin "come on down and hang out" with her and Johnston at the Teen Choice Awards and during the video shoot. Senser's producer and manager, Roy Belfrey of MN Finest Records, said he approached Johnston about the project in March, before Johnston and Bristol Palin announced they had reunited after a falling out and planned to wed. Johnston has previously expressed interest in acting. But he's quoted in the July 26 edition of US Weekly as saying he is "almost out of the limelight" after posing for a Playgirl photo spread and intends to get his high school equivalency degree and become an electrician.



FILE - In this Nov. 19, 2009 file photo, Levi Johnston arrives at US Weekly's Hot Hollywood party in West Hollywood, Calif.

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles, file)

Butler was asked Friday if Johnston still aspired to an acting career. "Yes, he's still interested in that. Of course, he's got to merge his perspective with that of his prospective wife. In other words, this is not a decision he's going to be making alone," the attorney said. Senser is the daughter of Joe Senser, who played tight end for the Vikings football team in the 1980s. "After Love" is off her first album of the same name (MN Finest Records/Bungalo Records/UMVD). Senser was asked if she thought Johnston was right for the role. "Why not? Seriously, what he does, people are interested in him. They want to know who is this guy who's involved so closely with the Palins," she said, adding, tongue-in-cheek, "He's not a bad-looking kid." She said Johnston's personal situation and the video's story line are a "little bit" parallel, but said the same is true for her and many other people.

Evan Winter, the video's creator and director, said in writing it he "kind of riffed off the real-life situation" and found a kernel of universal truth in it. He said the couple's "pure and honest love" ends as everyone tries to do the best they can.

Belfrey said the video will follow quickly on the heels of the "After Love" radio release, which he said should be in the next few weeks.

Bungalo Records executive Leo Rodgers said he considers Senser to be among "new generation of artists" coming out of Minneapolis, home to Prince and other music stars.

Publicist says Zsa Zsa Gabor in critical condition



FILE - In this Aug. 15, 1986 file photo, actress Zsa Zsa Gabor is shown Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/File)

LOS ANGELES — Zsa Zsa Gabor was hospitalized in critical condition Friday and was not responding to visitors after undergoing hip replacement

surgery after a fall at her Bel-Air home, her publicist said. John Blanchette said he spoke to Gabor's husband on Thursday and was told he was very worried about the 93-year-old actress because she was not responding to human contact. Blanchette described her condition as critical but said he had not received a formal report on Gabor's condition from her doctors. Gabor, a Hungarian-born sexpot of the 1950s and 1960s, was watching her favorite television game show in bed last Saturday when she reached to answer a telephone and tumbled out of bed, breaking her right hip, according to her husband, Prince Frederic von Anhalt.



FILE - In this July 20, 2010 file photo, Michael Lohan, father of Lindsay Lohan, and attorney Lisa Bloom arrive at the Beverly Hills courthouse where Lindsay was taken into custody to begin serving her jail sentence for a probation violation.

(AP Photo/Reed Saxon, file)

Lindsay Lohan's father faces NY harassment charge

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. — Actress Lindsay Lohan's father faces a harassment charge in New York after his former fiancée says he kicked and threatened to kill her.

Michael Lohan is due in a Southampton courtroom on Aug. 18.

His fiancée, 27-year-old Kathryn Major, told police that she and the 50-year-old Lohan argued on Monday over a missed cell phone call at the home they shared in Water Mill on Long Island. Major says Lohan kicked and threatened her.

Lohan's attorney, Lisa Bloom, says her client denies all the charges. She confirmed in an e-mail that the couple, who were engaged in April, have split.

Lohan was in Los Angeles this week to watch his daughter surrender to begin a 90-day jail term for violating terms of her probation.

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BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Obama to defend car bailout with auto plant visits

WASHINGTON (AFP) — President Barack Obama will visit Chrysler and General Motors plants next week, to defend the “tough decisions” he made last year to save the firms from going under, the White House said Friday. The visits will mark the latest attempt by Obama to defend his policies, as polls show Americans souring on his economic management amid high unemployment and fears that the rebound could be slowing. Obama will travel to Chrysler and GM plants in Detroit on Friday, July 30, and then go to a Ford plant in his home town of Chicago the following week, the White House said. “Just over a year after President Obama made tough decisions to save Chrysler and GM, these companies are returning to profitability,

hiring workers, and keeping plants open,” the White House said in a statement.

“Because of the steps the administration and Congress have taken with Cash for Clunkers and the Recovery Act, the industry overall is strengthening.”

Cash for Clunkers was a wildly popular incentive scheme for consumers to turn in old, polluting, gas guzzling cars for new more efficient models and the Recovery Act was Obama’s 787 billion dollar stimulus plan.

The White House said the Detroit Hamtramck plant Obama will visit was one of nine that GM recently kept open, during a planned summer shutdown.

The Chrysler plant has added a second shift of workers worth 1,100 jobs and the Chicago Ford plant is also looking at

creating 1,200 new jobs.

The visits will likely offer Obama a politically advantageous photo-op during a tough political period, in the run-up to November’s mid-term congressional elections, likely with workers feting him for saving their jobs.

Last year, soon after taking office, Obama was faced with a tough decision on whether to save two of the Big Three US auto giants let them die, with the loss of thousands of jobs in the firms and related industries.

Ford managed to ride out the crisis without a bailout

Opinion polls at the time showed that Obama’s decision to offer the firms tens of billions of dollars in loans was largely unpopular with the public in the depths of the worst economic crisis since the 1930s Great Depression.



US President Barack Obama speaks to auto workers at the GM plant in Lordstown, Ohio in 2009. Obama will visit Chrysler and General Motors plants next week, to defend the “tough decisions” he made last year to save the firms from going under, the White House said Friday.

Now that GM and Chrysler have been restructured, cut costs and are targeting growth and their sales figures are improving rapidly, the White House will argue their recovery was due to Obama’s action.

Obama will also likely stress that bailout funds are being paid back and may bill the stock the government owns in the auto industry, which it will slowly divest, as a bargain for taxpayers. □



Specialists Evan Solomon, left, and Mario Picone, right, watch their screens at a post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Friday, July 23, 2010, in New York.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

By STEPHEN BERNARD,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Investors bought stocks again on the latest reassuring news about the economy. This time, it was about European banks.

European regulators, who issued the results of what are called “stress tests” on the banks, said only a handful would struggle if the

continent’s economy weakens. That helped send the Dow Jones industrial average rose more than 100 points.

The latest second-quarter earnings reports also convinced investors that the economic recovery is proceeding. And so did announcements that General Electric Co. is raising its dividend and reports that French drug maker Sanofi-

Stocks rise after Euro bank tests, earnings

Aventis is interested in buying Genzyme Corp.

Investors were initially cautious about the stress tests, which measure how well banks will fare if government debt problems and the region’s economy worsened. Europe’s debt issues have sent stocks falling worldwide since April amid concerns they could slow the global economic recovery. There were some concerns in the market that the tests might not have been rigorous enough. And because the results were issued after the close of trading in Europe, it won’t be known until Monday how investors on the continent react. And, if they react badly, if that will prompt U.S. investors to sell. The tests showed that just seven of 91 European banks tested would fail. The European Union said the results should put to rest questions about the health of the continent’s financial sector.

Financial stocks, which had struggled early in the day, started to climb after the results were released at midday.

Brian Peardon, a wealth adviser at Harrison Financial Group, said there could be an initial, “gut” reaction to the results based on the headlines alone, but the full impact on the market won’t come until next week because there is so much information to sort through.

“It will take the weekend to digest whether they’re good or bad,” Peardon said.

And some analysts were skeptical because there was little known about the criteria used to test the banks.

“There’s obviously a lot of smoke and mirrors in these types of tests,” said Albert Meyer, portfolio manager of the Mirzam Capital Appreciation Fund. “They no doubt provide us with numbers that aren’t too alarming, even

if they are correct.”

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow closed up 102.32, or 1 percent, at 10,424.62. The Standard & Poor’s 500 index rose 8.99, or 0.8 percent, to 1,102.66, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 23.58, or 1.1 percent, to 2,269.47.

Rising stocks outpaced those that fell by a 4 to 1 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 1.15 billion shares.

European markets had already closed by the time the test results were released, so investors there couldn’t make moves following the announcement. German shares rose after a closely watched business climate index rose unexpectedly for the fifth straight month. Germany’s DAX index rose 0.4 percent, Britain’s FTSE 100 fell less than 0.1 percent, and France’s CAC-40 rose 0.2 percent. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



NFL, NFLPA release results of helmet study

By DAVE SKRETTA

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — The results of an independent study commissioned by the NFL and the players' union show modern helmets meet all national safety standards, though it stressed that no helmet can prevent concussions and more studies are necessary. The results were forwarded to teams on Friday, along with a memo from commissioner Roger Goodell outlining the study and a question-and-answer brief designed for players. The results come roughly three



months after a congressional committee criticized the NFL's research into equipment, particularly helmets, and questioned whether player safety is indeed being given top priority in an "infected system that needs to be cleaned up."

"The study should be regarded as an initial step in learning more about the effectiveness of safety equipment," Goodell said in his memo, which was obtained by The Associated Press. "It is not a definitive statement on helmet performance."

The study, which began last year, involved two independent labs that tested each of the 16 commercially available helmets for impacts similar to what would be felt by an NFL player in the open field. Eight locations on each helmet were tested using four speeds of impact, based on an analysis of game film and computer models in an attempt to replicate actual hits.

The raw data was examined by two independent biomechanical engineers and a statistician, and reviewed by the NFL's new Head, Neck and Spine Committee and doctors from the players' union.

The results showed that all 16 helmets met or exceeded national standards to protect players against traumatic head injuries, and none performed worse than a reference group of helmets from the 1990s. Three of the modern helmets — the Riddell Revolution, the Revolution Speed and the Schutt DNA Pro — were singled out as the top-performing helmets.

NFL players can choose to use any helmet that meets national safety standards.

"This was an opportunity to get the information to the players," NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy told The Associated Press.

Continued on Page 14

Japan's Miyazato leads Evian Masters by 1 stroke



Mika Miyazato of Japan plays on the fourteenth hole during the second round of the Evian Masters women's golf tournament in Evian, eastern France, Friday, July 23, 2010.

Associated Press.

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France (AP) — Mika Miyazato of Japan took the lead at the Evian Masters after the second round on Friday, shooting a 5-under 67 to move to 9 under and one stroke clear of Gwladys Nocera of France.

Miyazato made six birdies after beginning Friday's play

at 4 under. Nocera eagled the ninth hole and her fifth birdie of the day on the 17th moved her level, but she then bogeyed the 18th.

Jeong Jang of South Korea is next at 7 under.

The 20-year-old Miyazato played through two weather delays, a shorter one in

the morning and a longer break midway through the afternoon.

"I was very, very focused today," she said. "In the beginning, the first nine, my driver wasn't as steady, but with the rain delay, I was able to refresh my mindset and have a good back nine."

Nocera has won 10 times on the Ladies European Tour since 2006, but has finished outside of the top 40 in her five previous appearances at Evian. She has a more relaxed approach this year.

"I told my coach, my caddie, my mental coach, and myself, that I will leave (the 18th hole) every day with a smile," Nocera said. "That was the whole point, and I'm doing all right now and I need to keep on going. This is such a great event and I'm so lucky to be part of it."

Sun-Ju Ahn, Morgan Pressel and Melissa Reid shared the overnight first-round lead at 6 under, but they struggled as play was suspended due to thunderstorms.

Pressel (72) stayed at 6 under, Ahn (73) dropped to 5 under and Reid (77) is at 1 under.

Michelle Wie started the day tied for sixth at 4 under, but she slipped way down the leaderboard at 1 over after a sluggish round (77) that included a quintuple bogey on the 10th hole.

Defending champion Ai Miyazato of Japan managed only a 72 to stay at 3 under overall and six shots off the lead. □

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Even without his leadout man, Cavendish triumphs

NAOMI KOPPEL

Associated Press Writer

BORDEAUX, France (AP)

— Even without his roommate and most important teammate, Mark Cavendish showed yet again Friday that few can get close to him when it comes to sprinting to victory in the Tour de France.

Cavendish seemed to come almost out of nowhere to take the 18th stage into Bordeaux, surging to the front in the final couple of hundred meters and giving himself such a lead that he had time to look behind him a couple of times and then cross the finishing line with his fist in the air.

It was his fourth victory of this year's Tour, and his 14th in just three years of competing in cycling's premier event.

Cavendish had to win the race without the help of his usual leadout man and roommate Mark Renshaw, who was expelled from the race after the 11th stage for head-butting an opponent.

"I've missed Mark. I missed him in the Pyrenees, I missed somebody suffering more than me," Cavendish said. "I missed somebody to laugh about, about how hard it is." He dedicated the win to Renshaw, noting that the Australian rider made it easy to win stages, bringing him to

the front of the pack. "We've missed him a lot," he said.

Second place went to Julian Dean of New Zealand and third to Alessandro Petacchi of Italy, who in the process took the green jersey of leading sprinter off the shoulders of Norwegian Thor Hushovd.

Hushovd acknowledged that his fight to retain the sprint title he won last year was over.

"It's a big disappointment, but I realized step by step during the sprints that I'm suffering," he said, speaking to reporters after ducking into his team bus to take off the green jersey in which he had ridden the stage.

"I don't have the same level as Cavendish and Petacchi, and today was just another sprint that didn't work out."

There was no change in the overall standings. Alberto Contador of Spain holds the yellow jersey by eight seconds from Luxembourg's Andy Schleck.

Though that may seem like a slender lead, Contador is expected to outpace Schleck easily in Saturday's stage, a 32.3-mile time-trial from Bordeaux to Pauillac. Last year, he won the time-trial held in the latter stages of the Tour and took 1 minute 45 seconds off Schleck.

Contador also has the advantage of riding last, as the race leader, allowing him to know how all his rivals have done.

Saturday is the last stage in which the positions at the top of the overall standings can change, as Sunday's final ride into Paris is traditionally a sprinters' stage and a daylong victory procession for the overall winner.

Contador continues to insist that his victory is not certain until the time-trial is over.

"This is a hard stage that comes after 20 days in the Tour, and this isn't a race for specialists. I think tomorrow I will really have to fight a lot to win the stage and to defeat him," the Spaniard said of Schleck. Schleck also has not yet given up hope.

"I feel good. I have nothing to lose," Schleck said. "He's better but I'm not bad too. We're going to see a battle



Mark Cavendish of Britain looks back as he crosses the finish line to win the 18th stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 123 miles with start in Salies-de-Bearn and finish in Bordeaux, south western France, Friday, July 23, 2010, ahead of Alessandro Petacchi of Italy, left, Oscar Freire of Spain, second from left, and Edvald Boasson Hagen of Norway, right.

Associated Press

tomorrow."

The fight for third place on the podium is also not decided. Olympic road race champion Samuel Sanchez of Spain holds a 21-second lead over Denis Menchov of Russia, the winner of the 2009 Giro d'Italia.

Among those hoping for a stage win tomorrow are world time-trial champion Fabian Cancellara of Switzerland, Schleck's teammate at Saxo Bank, who took the race's prologue time-trial and held the yellow jersey for six days in the early part of the race. □

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NL Roundup

Phillies beat Cardinals 2-0 in 11 innings

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The Philadelphia Phillies survived another poor offensive showing with a 2-0 victory that ended the St. Louis Cardinals' eight-game winning streak and averted a four-game sweep on Thursday.

Placido Polanco homered leading off the 11th inning. Cole Hamels allowed one hit in eight innings, a solid single by Matt Holliday leading off the fourth. Four relievers, including Chad Durbin (2-1) did not allow a hit over the final three innings to finish the one-hitter.

Brad Lidge worked the 11th for his eighth save in 11 chances.

Cardinals starter Adam Wainwright missed a chance to match Colorado Rockies ace Ubaldo Jimenez as the majors' lone 15-game winners. Kyle McClellan (1-3) took the loss.

Dodgers 2, Mets 0

At Los Angeles, Hiroki Kuroda threw eight outstanding innings and Matt Kemp drove in both runs for Los Angeles. It was the Dodgers' second consecutive 2-0 win, having edged San Francisco a night earlier.

The Mets lost their fourth straight. They are scoreless in their last 17 innings after going 24 straight innings without a run last weekend in San Francisco.

Kuroda outpitched countryman Hisanori Takahashi in the sixth major league meeting of starters born in Japan.

Kuroda (8-8) allowed five hits, struck out four and walked one. The right-hander ended a personal three-game skid with his first win since June 26 against the New York Yankees..

Hong-Chih Kuo, who is Taiwanese, pitched the ninth for his third save. The left-hander hasn't given up a run in 16 1-3 innings at home.

Takahashi (7-5) gave up two runs and three hits in seven innings, struck out five and walked two.

At Miami, Ronny Paulino hit the winning single with the



Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Cole Hamels throws during the first inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals, Thursday, July 22, 2010, in St. Louis.

Associated Press

bases loaded and none out in the ninth inning to send the Rockies to their fifth loss in seven games since the All-Star break.

Pinch hitter Emilio Bonifacio hit his first triple of the year to start the bottom of the ninth

against Jhoulys Chacin (5-8), and Paulino brought him home after two intentional walks.

Florida's Josh Johnson struck out 11 in 6 1-3 innings and allowed only one run, on a homer by Ian Stewart in the second inning. Johnson

lowered his ERA to 1.61, best in the majors.

Colorado tied the game in the eighth, but Leo Nunez (4-2) struck out the side in the ninth.

At Atlanta, Tim Hudson dominated San Diego again,

while Alex Gonzalez finished his first homestand in Atlanta with four hits as the Braves rolled to an easy win over the Padres.

Gonzalez had hits in his first four at-bats to give him a streak of hits in six straight at-bats over two games, four shy of the Atlanta record. He struck out in the eighth to end it.

Hudson (10-5) allowed only four hits in seven scoreless innings. He is 5-0 in nine career appearances against the Padres, including two wins this season.

The Braves scored twice in the first off Clayton Richard (7-5), and it was all they needed. At Cincinnati, Adam Dunn hit a two-run homer off Edinson Volquez, who had a rough time in his second start since elbow surgery as the Nationals earned a four-game series split.

In other NL games it was Florida 3, Colorado 2; Washington 7, Cincinnati 1; Atlanta 8, San Diego 0; Philadelphia 2, St. Louis 0, 11 innings; Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 2; San Francisco 3, Arizona 0; and L.A. Dodgers 2, N.Y. Mets 0. □



This June 17, 2010, file photo shows NFL commissioner Roger Goodell surrounded by young football players, in the Queens section of New York.

Associated Press

HELMET STUDY

Continued from Page 12

"The helmets that were tested all performed well. The three that were called out did qualify as top performers, but all the helmets met safety standards."

The information sent to each NFL team and its training staff included a line in bold-faced print that said "no helmet, including these top-performing helmets, can prevent concussions or reduce the risk of concussion to any specified degree."

Concussions in the NFL have recently become a major topic of concern.

Last year, Goodell and others from the NFL testified before Congress about concussions, and the league has already implemented new return-to-play guidelines for players who sustain head injuries in practice or a game. Teams must now consult with an independent neurologist whenever a player sustains a head injury.

The results of the helmet study are based solely on NFL conditions and are not applicable to collegiate, high school or youth football. The conclusions also cannot be drawn about helmet performance in specific types of collisions.

"Potential contributing factors for concussion, such as playing position, concussion theory, type of collision and helmet fit were not studied as part of this initial laboratory-based study," the results said. "Thus, this research represents an initial step in measuring helmet performance, and is not a definitive statement on performance."

NFLPA assistant executive director George Atallah did not return a message seeking comment.

McCarthy said the testing is ongoing. The next step could involve additional laboratory work involving more speeds and impact points, or perhaps on-field analysis of performance. The NFL and the union are also considering expanded research to include other kinds of equipment.

"This has been a joint project throughout, and the intent was to take a look at existing helmets," McCarthy said. "It's an initial step in learning the effectiveness of the equipment, and we hope the manufacturers themselves can use the information to continue to improve." □

WNBA Roundup

Fever beats Sparks to take Eastern Conference lead

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Ebony Hoffman scored 16 points to help the Indiana Fever beat the Los Angeles Sparks 76-57 on Thursday night and move into sole possession of first place in the Eastern Conference. Katie Douglas and Jessica Davenport each scored 13 points for the Fever, who have won five of six. Tamika Catchings, who had scored at least 20 points in four straight games, finished with 11 points, six rebounds and six assists for Indiana. Tina Thompson scored 19 points for Los Angeles, which has won only one of 11 matches on the road. No

other Sparks player scored in double figures.

Los Angeles' loss clinched a playoff berth for league-best Seattle, which has a 19-2 win-loss record.

Mercury 123, Shock 91

At Tulsa, Oklahoma, Diana Taurasi scored 26 points and Candice Dupree had 23 to lead defending WNBA champion Phoenix.

Ketia Swanier added 17 points, Tangela Smith 13, DeWanna Bonner 11 and Penny Taylor 10 for the Mercury, who scored a WNBA-record 67 points in the first half. Phoenix also set a record for most points

in the second quarter with 36, and equaled the mark for most field goals in a half with 25.

Kara Braxton scored 18 points to lead the Shock. Shanna Crossley had 12 points, Jennifer Lacy added 11, and Ivory Latta and Amber Holt 10 each.

The Mercury swept the four-game season series after scoring at least 100 points against the Shock for the third time.

Silver Stars 74, Lynx 72

At Minneapolis, Sophia Young made two free throws with 3.8 seconds to play to lift San Antonio past Minnesota.



Phoenix Mercury forward CAndice Dupree pulls in a defensive rebound between Tulsa Shock's Marion Jones and Chante Black, right, as Mercury's Nicole Ohlde (30) looks on during the second quarter of a WNBA basketball game Thursday, July 22, 2010, in Tulsa, Okla.

Associated Press

Chamique Holdsclaw led the Silver Stars with 17 points, while Becky Hammon and Roneeka Hodges each had 14. San Antonio won just its third road game of the season and moved a half-game ahead of the Lynx into second place in the woeful Western Conference. Minnesota's Seimone

Augustus led all scorers with 22 points, but the Lynx lost their second game in a row. Augustus, who was coming off a disastrous 4-for-17 shooting performance in Saturday's loss to conference-leading Seattle, hit a pair of shots in the final 1:10 to tie the score at 72-all. □



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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

AL Roundup

Lackey loses no-hit bid in 8th, Boston wins in 13

GREGG BELL

AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — John Lackey came within four outs of a no-hitter, only to watch his Boston Red Sox blow a comfortable lead and cost him a win before beating the Seattle Mariners 8-6 in 13 innings Thursday night.

Seldom-used Eric Patterson doubled home two runs with two outs in the 13th and the Red Sox overcame Seattle's five-run ninth against Manny Delcarmen and closer Jonathan Papelbon.

Josh Bard broke up Lackey's bid for baseball's fifth no-hitter this season on a clean single to right-center with two outs in the eighth. The last-place Mariners then rose up for five runs on three hits and two Boston errors to tie it in the ninth.

Yankees 10, Royals 4

At New York, Alex Rodriguez hit his 599th home run and Derek Jeter had an inside-the-park shot as the Yankees beat the Kansas City Royals on a strange night in the Bronx. Jorge Posada had a go-ahead double and a bizarre throwing error that cost New York a run and put Yuniesky Betancourt on second after striking out. But the Yankees rebounded to help CC Sabathia (13-3) win his ninth straight decision.

Rodriguez, who had four RBIs, hit a solo homer to right field in the seventh inning, putting New York ahead 6-4 and leaving him one shy of becoming the



seventh major league player to reach 600.

The slugger came up again with a chance for No. 600 in the eighth. He smacked an RBI double and was pulled for a pinch runner.

Jeter's deep drive in the third off Bruce Chen settled in center fielder David DeJesus' glove, but he ran into the padded fence with his arm extended in front of him. His glove and wrist twisted back and the ball popped out as DeJesus fell. Jeter motored home for his second career inside-the-park home run, tying the game at 3. His first came Aug. 2, 1996, his rookie season.

DeJesus sprained his thumb on the play and was replaced by Rick Ankiel, who came off the disabled list earlier

in the day. The Royals said DeJesus would miss the rest of the four-game series.

Rangers 3, Angels 2

At Arlington, Cliff Lee pitched into the ninth inning to beat fellow All-Star Jered Weaver as Texas edged Los Angeles to give the AL West leaders a six-game lead over the second-place Angels.

Lee (9-4) allowed five hits, struck out four and didn't walk a batter over 8 1-3 innings in his third start since he was acquired from Seattle in a six-player trade July 9. Neftali Feliz got two outs for his 26th save.

Weaver (9-6) gave up three runs and seven hits in six innings with five strikeouts and two walks.

Michael Young homered and Josh Hamilton drove in the go-ahead run with a

double in the sixth as the Rangers opened a stretch of seven games against the Angels over an 11-day span.

Twins 5, Orioles 0

At Baltimore, Carl Pavano pitched a five-hitter for his career-best seventh straight victory for Minnesota.

Pavano (12-6) struck out four and walked one in his fifth complete game of the season and 12th of his career. The right-hander is 7-0 in nine starts since June 3.

Orioles first baseman Ty Wigginton, pitching coach Rick Kranitz and interim manager Juan Samuel were all ejected in the seventh inning. It was a rare show of emotion for the team with the worst record in the majors.

The struggling Orioles (30-65) finished with five hits and three ejections.

Pavano got all the offensive support he needed when Delmon Young hit a three-run double in the first inning off Kevin Millwood (2-9). Michael Cuddyer hit his 10th homer leading off the fourth.

At Detroit, Miguel Cabrera started a three-run eighth inning with an RBI double and Justin Verlander settled down after a rocky start to go eight innings in Detroit's victory over Toronto.

Verlander (12-5) struggled through the first two innings but ended up allowing two runs and eight hits. He walked two batters in the first but didn't issue another base on balls.

Ricky Romero (7-7) gave up three runs and seven hits in seven-plus innings.

Johnny Damon walked to start the eighth, and Shawn Camp replaced Romero. Magglio Ordonez singled, moving Damon to second, and Cabrera followed with his third hit — a double that made it 3-2. Ryan Raburn's single gave the Tigers a 4-2 lead, and Gerald Laird added a sacrifice fly.

Jose Valverde pitched the ninth for his 20th save as Detroit won its second straight after a season-worst seven-game losing streak. Toronto lost for the second time in seven games.

In other AL games it was Detroit 5, Toronto 2; N.Y. Yankees 10, Kansas City 4; Minnesota 5, Baltimore 0; Texas 3, L.A. Angels 2; and Boston 8, Seattle 6, 13 innings. □



Laguna Restaurant Now Closed For Refresh

PALM BEACH – Laguna Restaurant, Radisson Aruba Resort Spa & Casino, will be closing on seasonal refresh over the period of 3 to 4 weeks. Its popular Breakfast Buffet will be relocated to the Sunset Grille Restaurant, and served weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. On Sundays, the Breakfast Buffet, will be available from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., at which time the display will be expanded and enriched to serve Sunday Champagne Brunch, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa, fondly referred to as La Grande Dame, celebrated its 50th anniversary last summer. During its years as a bastion of island hospitality, the resort underwent a number of renovations and refreshes which account for its evergreen appeal and popularity as Aruba's most loved resort. □

Neighborhood project to re-plant nature

The Children of Dakota join the Prime Minister



DAKOTA – Prime Minister Mike Eman is participating in a youth project for children in different neighborhoods on the island to plant trees and various plants.

Read more on Next Page



Big Joe hits the Menu this coming Monday

Biggest Burger launched at Smokey Joe's

"You've never had anything like it!"



PALM BEACH – Yesterday afternoon, the mouthwatering BIG JOE was launched at Smokey Joe's across the street from the Playa Linda Resort.

The massive Burger is weighing in well over one pound and



is a mouth watering combination of 1/2 pound ground black angus beef, cheddar cheese, tantalizing BBQ pulled pork and coleslaw.

Read more on Page B5

Neighborhood project to re-plant nature

The Children of Dakota join the Prime Minister



DAKOTA – Prime Minister Mike Eman is participating in a youth project for children in different neighborhoods on the island to plant trees and various plants.

The children of “Gourmet Summercamp” under the supervision of Mrs. Thelma Ahlip arrived in a bus to participate in this nature activity for the neighborhood center Dakota HuDa (Dakota Youth) together with their

leaders. Fantastic Gardens donated the plants for the youth to participate with and to learn about.

The objective is for the youth to not only learn how to plant and care for nature, but to learn about it and respect the nature life and all it has to offer.

Congratulations to Mike Eman and his cabinet for the intuition and support of not only Aruba’s youth and nature but for our future. □



Tiara Air hands tickets to the best singers of their jingle



ORANJESTAD - Last year October Tiara Air launched its jingle which is a mix of the Caribbean composed by the well-known Aruban singer Janiro Eisdien from Basic One and Jonathan Thiel “Biggy Boy” from The Next level.

After some months of listening to this jingle on the radio in Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao, Tiara Air decided to award the best singers of the jingle with free tickets.



Tiara Air started the ceremony with a presentation of their new schedule. For more information visit their website: www.tiara-air.com.

Now with more options to fly to Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao and Punto Fijo, Venezuela.

Pictured the winners receiving their ticket from the Director of Tiara Air, Alejandro Muyale and the Sales, PR & Marketing Coordinator, Abigail Arends. □



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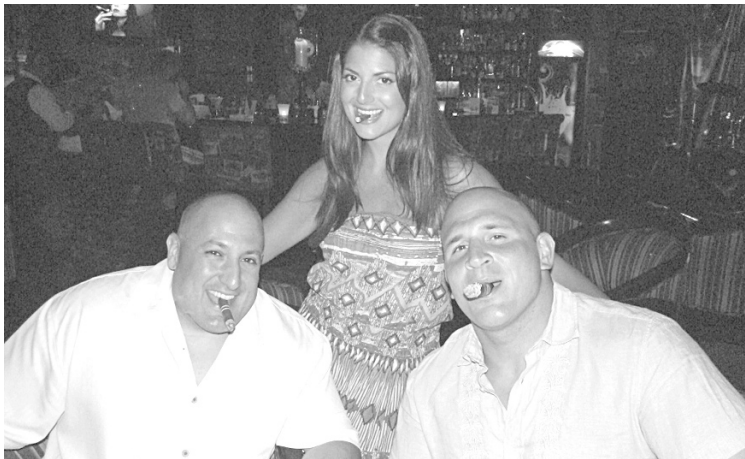
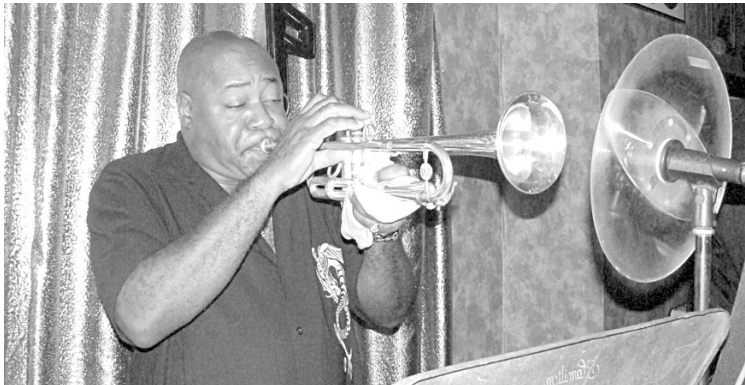
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Ladies Night at Garufa Features Claudius Phillips Every Wednesday



ORANJESTAD – Garufa Cigar & Cocktail Lounge hosts Aruba's hottest band on Wednesdays, as the ultra lounge throws a special Ladies Night party with terrific dance music, live



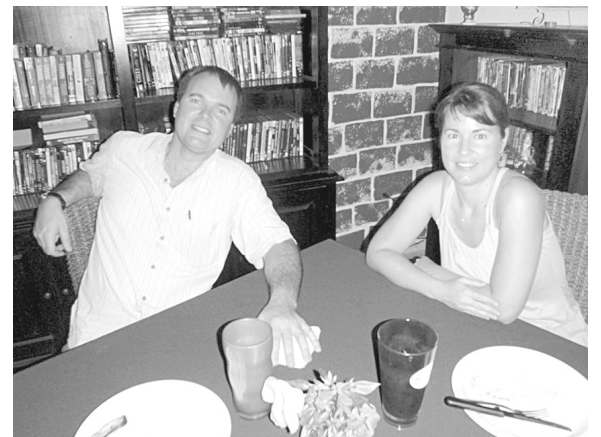
DJ mixing, complimentary snacks, and special bar prices all night. As a tempting incentive for ladies, Blanca the legendary bartender makes a super martini every Wednesday, which is served to all ladies free of charge from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. Pictured here, Garufa Ladies Night in Action. □



Island guests go off the beaten track



SAVANETA - Club Arias is a wonderful bed and breakfast in Savaneta where they have 10 very nice rooms and 2 pools and is a very quiet place to relax or to do whatever you desire. Arias is the owner and Chef Gabriel cooks breakfast for you. Also on Monday nights he does pasta. Wednesday night is pizza night and Friday night is wing night. Geo does the Island tour with the guest or anyone that wants to see the Island. Gabriel did a nice meal for the guest and some friends. They had sausage and rice, fish 2 ways, shrimp, ribs and potatoes. It was delicious. The people who attended were Arias, Gabriel, Geo, James. Wendy, Daniel. Heather, Tracy, and Kent. □



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Big Joe hits the Menu this coming Monday

Biggest Burger launched at Smokey Joe's

"You've never had anything like it!"



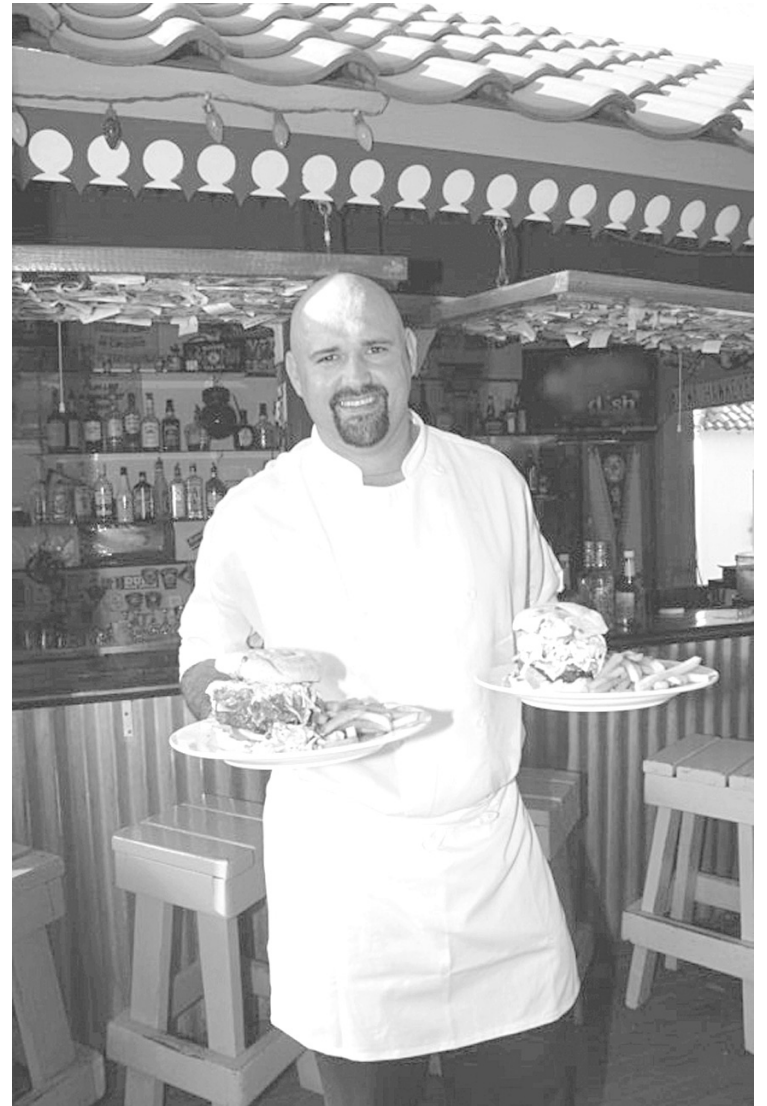
PALM BEACH – Yesterday afternoon, the mouthwatering BIG JOE was launched at Smokey Joe's across the street from the Playa Linda Resort. The massive Burger is weighing in well over one pound and is a mouth watering combination of

1/2 pound ground black angus beef, cheddar cheese, tantalizing BBQ pulled pork and coleslaw.

BIG JOE is garnished with lettuce, tomato and onion and served with Smokey Joe's "Original" BBQ sauce on a grilled bun. BIG JOE is



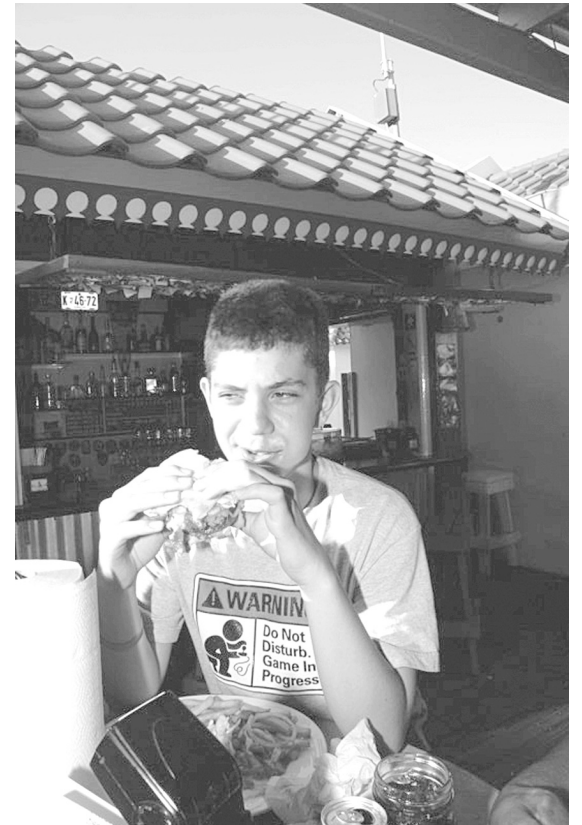
accompanied by a serving of French fries. BIG JOE is a complete meal on a bun, ready to satisfy the largest appetite. Smokey Joe's is well known



for its original BBQ ribs, reputedly the "Best Ribs in the Caribbean". They don't expect BIG JOE to compete with their number one selling ribs; they know it will be more of a complement to the already award-winning menu. "We are going to satisfy the burger

wishes of our customers who have come to associate Smokey Joe's with large portions of delicious fresh food at reasonable prices.

The best of both worlds BIG JOE will be on the Smokey Joe menu starting Monday, July 26th. □



Nilo Arcilla promoted to Resort Retail Manager



Palm Beach – Salamander Holdings NV is proud to announce the appointment of Nilo Arcilla to Resort Manager, effective July 21st. The company, explains Managing Director Jodi Tobman has newly created the position to reward Nilo who supervised and managed T. H. Palm & Company, with growth and promotion. In his new role, Tobman informs, Nilo will assume responsibility for overseeing Supervisors, Team Leaders and Sales Associates at all three of Playa Linda locations sharing his leadership, dedication and knowledge with all three super teams at T.H. Palm & Company, The Juggling Fish and The Juggling Fish Swimwear Store. “On behalf of the management team,” Tobman adds, “I am pleased to share this news with



the world, as Nilo worked very hard these past years to push himself to develop and learn, and as he reaches his goal to become Resort Manager we are all rewarded with his accomplishments.” Pictured here Nilo, Resort Retail Manager for Salamander Holdings, NV. □



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SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF JULY 23 - JULY 29

*matinee: everyday | late show: friday & saturday

AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD

PG-13	INCEPTION	daily: 8:00	late show: 11:00
NEW		matinee:	
R	UNTHINKABLE	daily: 6:45	9:00
NEW		matinee:	late show: 11:15
PG	MONSTERS VS ALIENS	daily: 12:00	4:30
NEW		matinee: 14:15	late show:
PG	DESPICABLE ME 3D	daily: 12:00	4:30
		matinee: 2:15	late show:
PG	THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE	daily: 5:30	8:00
		matinee: 12:30	3:00
PG	THE KARATE KID	daily: 12:15	3:15
		matinee: 12:15	late show:
PG-13	GROWN UPS	daily: 4:45	7:00
		matinee: 12:00	2:30
PG	TOY STORY 3 3D	daily: 12:30	3:00
		matinee: 1:30	6:30
R	PREDATORS	daily: 6:30	9:00
		matinee: 1:30	late show: 11:50
PG	THE LAST AIRBENDER	daily: 6:45	9:00
		matinee:	late show: 11:15

AT PASEO HERENCIA

PG-13	SALT Starting Monday July 26TH	daily: 4:15	6:30	8:30
NEW		matinee:	late show:	11:00
G	THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG	daily: 12:00	2:00	late show:
PG	DESPICABLE ME 3D	daily: 4:45	2:30	late show:
		matinee: 12:15	2:30	late show:
PG	THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE	daily: 3:45	6:15	8:45
		matinee: 1:00	late show:	11:15
PG	THE LAST AIRBENDER	daily: 7:00	9:15	late show: 11:30
		matinee:	late show:	11:30
PG-13	GROWN UPS	daily: 4:45	7:15	9:30
		matinee: 12:00	2:30	late show: 11:45
PG-13	KNIGHT & DAY	daily: 6:30	9:00	late show: 11:30
		matinee:	late show:	11:30
PG	THE KARATE KID	daily: 3:30	late show:	
		matinee: 12:30	late show:	
PG-13	TOY STORY 3 3D	daily: 4:00	6:30	late show:
		matinee: 1:30	late show:	
PG-13	THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE	daily: 9:00	late show: 11:45	
		matinee:	late show: 11:45	

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The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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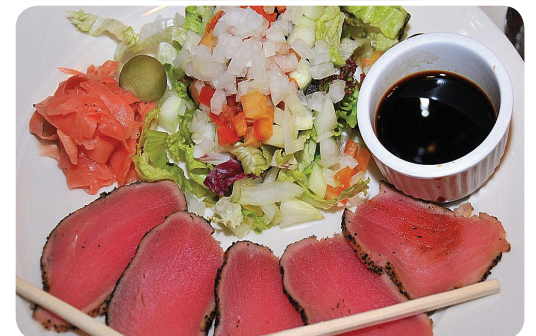
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the world are found back on the menu and they are already well known for the daily changing specials. If you have a large party, or if there is anything you feel like in particular, Fishes & More can always arrange to have your dinner cooked just for you, as they work

only with fresh and honest products! Ideally located in front of the Occidental Resort (Former Allegro), they are visited both by individuals and families alike, as they have a super kids menu, so they can enjoy their dinner as much as you

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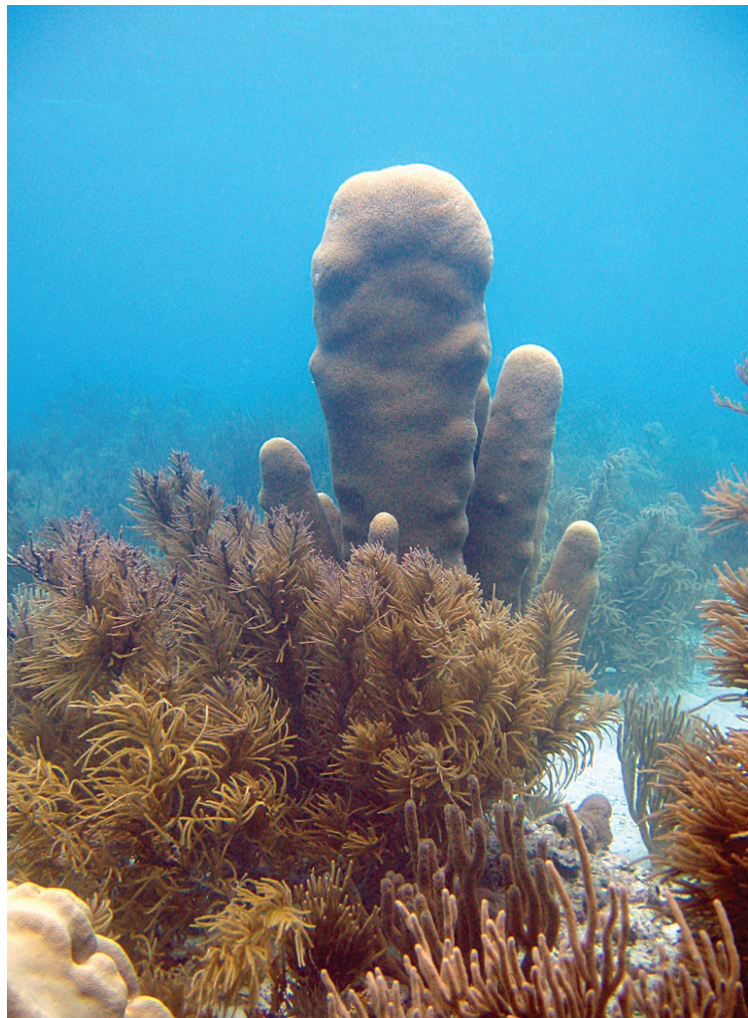
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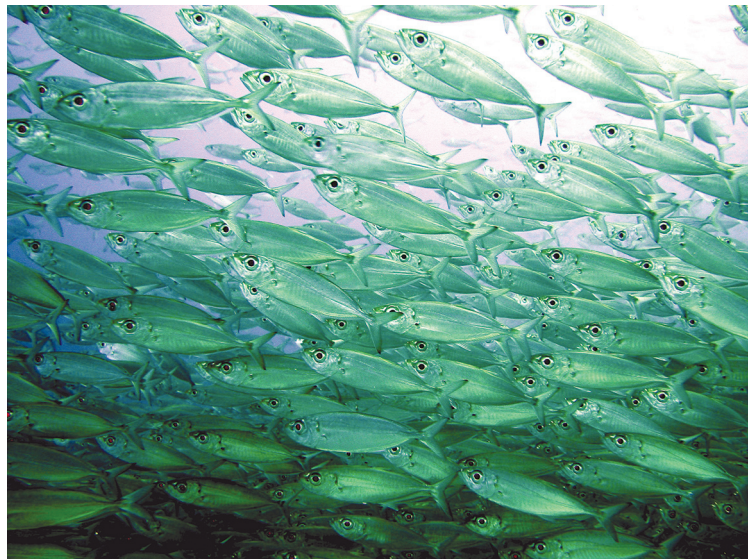
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“Aruba will have an Aruba Marine Park”A

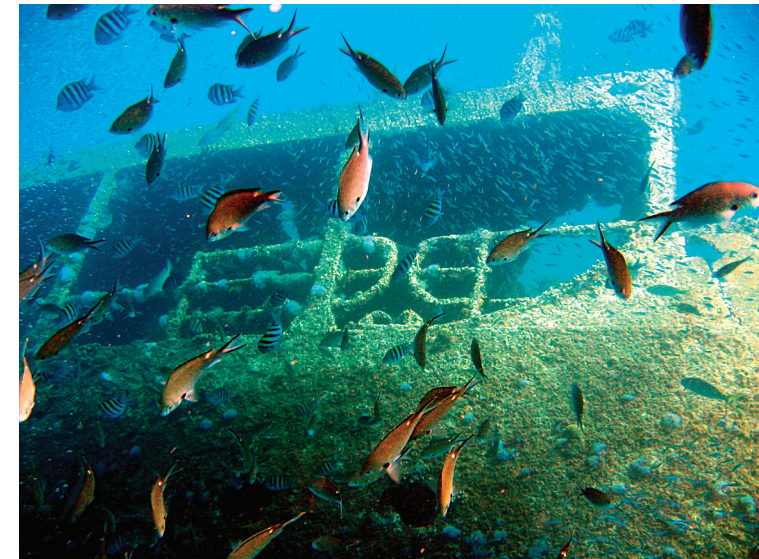


ORANJESTAD - Recently the minister of tourism here in Aruba mentioned during a press conference the implementation of an Aruba Marine Park. According to the minister the plans regarding the implementation of the Aruba Marine Park are very advanced and a presentation

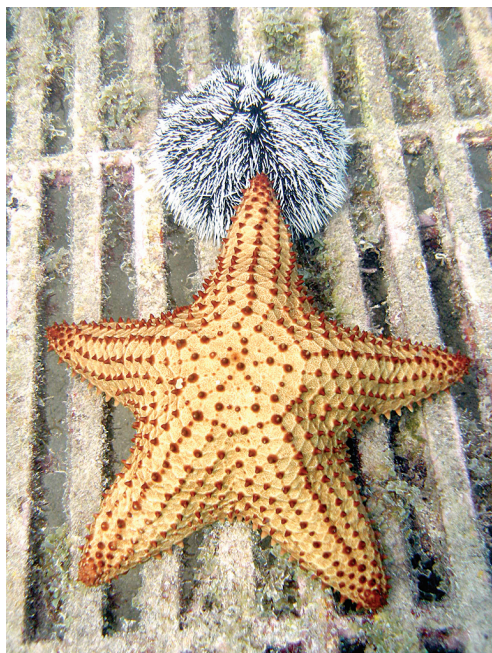


increase in waste production, pollution, deterioration of the environment and the marine environment in particular. While other tourism destinations in the Caribbean have been engaging in marine protection and conservation for the past five decades, finally Aruba is going to join the ranks of countries, which are involved with the aquatic tourism product improvement by instituting a marine park. Why introduce a marine park and marinesanctuaries? Marine parks and marine sanctuaries are much like land based parks and reserves. They are extensive areas that have been given national status because of their individual geographic features and diverse range of plants and animals. The majority of the world’s marine parks and marine sanctuaries are on public land, so they are there for everyone to enjoy. These parks are either implemented by a marine park law or they fall under specific environmental laws. In Aruba for instance some protection already exists under the

has been done already to the council of ministers. Implementation of a marine in Aruba is long overdue. Since the early 1960’s the island has known an explosive growth in population, annual tourism, the construction and infrastructure. Because of this growth it brought with it also an



Marine Park will help to protect water sports activities, fishermen, the general public, the marine environment and improve the general use of the marine resources while working with the government and government departments to ensure that the marine park designated areas are used in accordance with the management plan. If we look in the region, the Bonaire National Marine Park is



considered by many to be one of the most successful marine parks in the world. About 70 countries in the world have a marine park, however, many are considered “paper parks” because legislation is not enforced, resources are lacking and management plans are not properly carried out. Because many of the world marine parks lack this success, one must look at the Bonaire National Marine

Park model and its protected areas. Tourism and in particular scuba diving is the main source of income for Bonaire. The island has had a steady annual total of 70,000 tourists visiting for the last five years and about 85 percent of these tourists are scuba divers. Aruba on the other hand has about 70,000 divers per year. Aruba compared to Bonaire is smaller in size with fewer hectares of coral reefs but Aruba accommodates about 1.4 million visitors annually. Legislation and protection started in Bonaire in 1961 but the Bonaire Marine Park was established in 1979 with a grant from the World Wildlife Fund. The Netherlands and the Bonaire government also contributed to jump start the marine park. Aruba will face a few challenges with the implementation of the Aruba Marine Park. A strong plan must be in place to guarantee

the financial continuity. Management must be effective and provide frequent and constant patrols including adequate law enforcement, abundance of information and educational activities, good communications with all stakeholders and constant research and monitoring. Like Bonaire, many marine parks have fees that are paid by visitors or marine park users. Various fees and or permits are used towards the parks upkeep and maintenance, law enforcement, information and education, and research and monitoring. The introduction of user fees should not be seen as a burden but rather as people contributing to the enhancement of the overall product and actively participating in marine environmental protection. Implementation of the Aruba Marine Park and its success will depend in part on the cooperation of all stakeholders. The biggest stakeholder is

the local government, which raises a few questions. Is the management of a marine park a government task and should the government finance the implementation of a marine park? Well, the designated areas, which will make up the marine park are all government land and there for the responsibility falls with the government to protect these areas under existing laws. In reality the government departments involved are too many and that will make it unrealistic for the government to manage such a park. That is why the government must appoint an independent managing entity, which will manage the marine park on behalf of the government, just like in the case of the Bonaire National Marine Park. The land will remain government land and does not become property of the managing entity. Based on the same marine park model in Bonaire the government of Aruba will not have to finance or provide subsidies to the marine park because it will have to become financially self sustainable.

Dive and water sport fees are the most common fees used in marine parks and one of the most successful tools for securing funding. Currently the northern part of the island, which stretches from the Costa Linda resort all the way to Arashi beach is in need of public moorings, reef protection and management of the current snorkeling and dive sites, which are being overused on a daily basis. Beach pollution is also something that the future marine park must tackle. Implementation of the “Blue Flag” certification is also one of the projects that the marine must complete in the near future, including installation of monitoring buoys, which will help with research of currents, waves, water temperature and other scientific information. The future Aruba Marine Park must come with an intensive informational campaign, which will have to inform and help to educate everyone regarding the need for the marine park, the benefits of the marine park and why protection is necessary. □

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At Eagle Beach

Joe and Michelle tie the knot



AMSTERDAM MANOR- Joe Myers and Michelle Robertson of North Carolina were wed recently at Amsterdam Manor. The lovebirds were best friends for about 6 years before they started dating. Their friendship became a strong bond of love. After two years of dating Joe knew he wanted to spend the rest of his life with Michelle. While in their living room one night while watching TV, Joe surprised Michelle as he got down on one knee and proposed his love. Michelle & Joe decided on a destination wedding because

they had both been married before and didn't want all the hassle of a traditional wedding. They knew Aruba would be romantic, tropical and a great place to share with their closest friends to share their special day. The ceremony was held on Eagle Beach next to the famous Fofoti tree. Michelle and Joe vowed their love and exchanged rings. Following the ceremony, Bella Aruba Photography took the newlyweds on a 'Once In a Lifetime' photo shoot as the sunset. The dinner reception was held at Passions with a romantic

setting on the beach. "Our wedding day was exactly as we had hoped it would be. Getting married on the beach was perfect; it was like being home away from home since we live in a beach community.

We want to thank Lissy Lampe of Ceremonies and Celebrations for an amazing wedding as we had dreamed; it was beautiful,

romantic and exactly how we had hoped it to be. "□

Photos by Angela Munzenhofer





Obama, Clinton pledge US support for AIDS fight

By VERONIKA OLEKSYN,
Associated Press Writer

VIENNA – President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton have pledged the support of the United States in the global fight against AIDS.

Speaking Friday via prerecorded video at the close of an international conference dedicated to the disease, the two said they were committed to building upon progress and taking the lead in ensuring a sustainable and effective response.

“Ending this pandemic won’t be easy, and it won’t happen overnight,” Obama

told delegates gathered in the Austrian capital. “But thanks to you, we’ve come a long way — and the United States is committed to continuing that progress.”

Clinton said the United States believes access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care should be a universal and shared responsibility and said health was a human right.

“As we push to expand access to these resources, the United States will continue to work with our partner countries and with civil society to help empower citizens to lead the charge in their own countries,” she said.

Washington will host the next international AIDS conference in July 2012.

During this week’s meeting, the more than 19,000 delegates heard promising news about a vaginal gel spiked with the AIDS drug tenofir that has proved capable of blocking the AIDS virus.

They also welcomed an announcement by the World Health Organization that a record 5.2 million people were receiving lifesaving AIDS drugs last year, up from 4 million in 2008.

But the gathering was overshadowed by woes about replenishing the Global Fund



The International AIDS conference in Vienna took a bow on Friday after six days of seminars, workshops and networking on fighting AIDS and HIV.

Urge Kids to Drink Water During Hot Weather: Expert

This summer’s exceptionally hot weather means children are at increased risk for dehydration, a pediatric expert warns.

“It’s always important to keep your kids hydrated, but when you’re dealing with this kind of heat it can be especially dangerous,” Dr. Sean Cahill, an associate professor in the pediatrics department at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, said in a Loyola news release. “Dehydration puts kids at risk for heat-related illnesses like heat stroke. They can suffer from rhabdomyolysis, which is when their muscles break down and this process leads to kidney failure and damaged muscle cells from crystals in the urine,” Cahill noted.

Infants may be at greatest risk for dehydration because they can’t get the water they need on their own.

Dehydration can happen quickly so parents need to be watchful for the following signs that children aren’t getting enough fluids:



Kids play in a water park to beat the early evening temperatures in Indianapolis, Friday, July 16, 2010. Temperatures are expected to be in the low 90’s in central for the next few days.

(AP Photo/Darron Cummings)

- Crying but no sign of tears.
- Eyes that appear to be sunken.
- Tenting of the skin. This can be tested by pinching the skin on the back of the hand and releasing it quickly. If the skin takes time to return to normal, it may be a sign of dehydration.
- Low urine output. “Your child should urinate at least four times a day. The urine should be clear. If it is yellow and smells very strong this

could be a sign your child is not drinking enough,” Cahill said.

Cahill offered the following advice for making sure children stay hydrated:

- Always bring water during outdoor activities. Fill an environmentally friendly water bottle before you leave home and re-fill it as needed, rather than relying on buying water or finding usable drinking fountains while you are out. □

to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which provides major support for AIDS programs around the world.

Donors meet in October to decide on the fund’s financing level for the next three years amid concerns that a desired \$20 billion in pledges won’t be reached.

While some protesters directly targeted the United States, a recent U.N. report showed that the U.S. was the largest donor of international AIDS assistance in 2009, accounting for more than 58 percent of disbursements by governments.

Conference chief Julio Montaner of the International AIDS Society said in his closing remarks that the United States has what it takes to make a difference and thanked Obama for his leadership in changing policies that infringe upon human rights.

“The U.S. has the power to literally change the course of the epidemic,” Montaner said. Nobel peace laureate Desmond Tutu of South Africa, meanwhile, stressed that HIV prevention, treatment, care and support are a human rights priority.

“To deny treatment is to deny life itself,” Tutu said in a video

address.

Over the course of the week, activists have slammed the rich G-8 countries for failing to deliver on a commitment to ensure that everyone infected with HIV and AIDS gets treatment by 2010.

In 2005, G-8 leaders committed to developing and implementing an Africa-focused package for HIV prevention, treatment and care with the aim of getting “as close as possible to universal access to treatment for all those who need it by 2010.” They reaffirmed and broadened their commitment a year later. But a G-8 accountability report from last month’s summit of world leaders in Canada acknowledged that the “universal access targets with respect to HIV/AIDS will not be met by 2010.”

Earlier Friday, the U.N.’s top investigator on torture and punishment warned delegates that overcrowded prisons are breeding grounds for AIDS.

Often, inmates are held in inhumane conditions in which the HIV virus is spread through the use of non-sterile drug injection equipment, sexual contacts, tattooing and sharing of razors, Manfred Nowak said. □

Ancient woman suggests diverse migration

By **MARK STEVENSON,**
Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY—A scientific reconstruction of one of the oldest sets of human remains found in the Americas appears to support theories that the first people who came to the hemisphere migrated from a broader area than once thought, researchers say. Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History on Thursday released photos of the reconstructed image of a woman who probably lived on Mexico's Caribbean coast 10,000 to 12,000 years ago. She peeks out of the picture as a short, spry-looking woman with slightly graying hair.

Anthropologists had long believed humans migrated to the Americas in a relatively short period from a limited area in northeast Asia across a temporary land corridor that opened across the Bering Strait during an ice age.

But government archaeologist Alejandro Terrazas says the picture has now become more complicated, because

the reconstruction more resembles people from southeastern Asian areas like Indonesia.

"History isn't that simple," Terrazas said. "This indicates that the Americas were populated by several migratory movements, not just one or two waves from northern Asia across the Bering Strait."

Some outside experts caution that the evidence is not conclusive.

Ripan Malhi, assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Illinois, said that "using facial reconstructions to assign ancestry to an individual is not as strong as using ancient DNA to assess the ancestry of the individual, because the environment can influence the traits of the face."

"All of the current genetic evidence points to Northeast Asia as the main source for Native Americans," Malhi said.

However, there have been few opportunities to use DNA or other methods to identify the

origins of the first inhabitants because only a handful of skeletons from 10,000 years ago have survived.

The female is known as "La Mujer de las Palmas," or "The Woman of the Palms," after the sinkhole cave near the Caribbean resort of Tulum where her remains were found by divers and recovered in 2002.

Because rising water levels flooded the cave where she died or was laid to rest, her skeleton was about 90 percent intact. Archaeologists and physical anthropologists calculated she was between 44 and 50 years old when she died, was about 5 feet (1.52 meters) tall and weighed about 128 pounds (58 kilograms).

Experts also measured skull features and calculated the muscle and other tissue layers that once covered her face, which served as a guide for experts in paleo-anthropological modeling at the Atelier Daynes in France to complete a model of the woman.

The model shows a stocky woman and clad in a simple knee-length woven tunic. She had a broad face, prominent cheeks, thin lips, and little trace of the epicanthic eye-folds that characterize many modern Asian populations.

"Her body structure, skin and eyes are similar to the population of Southeast Asia," the institute said in a statement.

Susan Gillespie, an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Florida, noted that while the Bering land bridge theory still has a lot of support, "the situation is messier than the straightforward scenario ... of big-game hunters chasing woolly mammoths over the exposed 'Bering bridge' to Alaska."

"Recently there has been more serious inquiry into the various origins of migrants, modes of transportation, and dates of when they got here," Gillespie said in an e-mail message. "Dates for peopling of the Americas have been pushed way back,



This undated photo taken at the France-based Atelier Daynes in Paris, released on Friday, July 23, 2010, by Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History, shows a scientific reconstruction of an ancient woman known as La Mujer de las Palmas, based on the skeletal remains of a female who lived between 10,000 and 12,000 years ago in Tulum, Mexico. Experts reconstructed what the woman may have looked like based on the remains found in 2002 in a sinkhole cave near the Caribbean resort of Tulum, Mexico. Anthropologist Alejandro Terrazas says the reconstruction resembles people from southeastern Asia areas like Indonesia, even though experts had long believed the first people to migrate to the Americas where from northeast Asia.

(AP Photo/ Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History)

and with the finding of very early skeletal remains, the genetic/skeletal linkages to peoples of northeast Asia has become more cloudy."

But Gillespie cautioned against comparing a reconstructed face from 10,000 years ago to modern populations in places like Indonesia, which have also probably changed over 10 millennia.

"You have to find skeletons of the same time period in Asia, or use genetic reconstructions, to make a strong connection, and cannot rely on modern populations," she wrote. "Do we have any empirical data on what Southeast Asian women looked like ... 10,000 years ago?" □

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OBAMA'S POLL NUMBERS DOWN, IMAGINARY RACISM UP

By Ann Coulter

The Democrats are depressed about their collapsing poll numbers, so it's time to start calling conservatives "racist." As we now know from the Journalist list-serv, where hundreds of liberal journalists chat with one another, and which was leaked to Daily Caller this week, journalists cry "racism" whenever they need to distract from bad news for Obama. (Ironically, this story did not make headlines.) When the Rev. Jeremiah Wright scandal broke during

the 2008 campaign, the first response of Spencer Ackerman of the Washington Independent was to demand that they start randomly picking conservatives -- "Fred Barnes, Karl Rove, who cares -- and call them racists." Ackerman, frequent guest on MSNBC's "Rachel Maddow Show," continued on Journalist:

"What is necessary is to raise the cost on the right of going after the left.

In other words, find a rightwinger's [sic] and smash it through a plate-glass window. Take a snapshot of the bleeding mess and send it out in a Christmas card to let the right know that it needs to live in a state of constant fear. Obviously I mean this rhetorically."

This is what "racism" has come to in America. Democrats are in trouble, so they say "let's call conservatives racists." We always knew it, but the Journalist postings gave us the smoking gun.

This explains why we've heard so much about Tea Partiers being "racists" lately.

But despite a frantic search, the media have been unable to produce any actual evidence of racism at the Tea Parties. Even the trace elements are either frauds or utterly trivial.

For example, there was blind terror last week over a Tea Party billboard in northern Iowa that showed a picture of Adolf Hitler, Obama and Vladimir Lenin under the headings: "National Socialism," "Democratic Socialism" and "Marxist Socialism."

Overheated? Perhaps. Racist? No. Unless liberals are about to break the news that Lenin and Hitler were black, what we have here, gentlemen, is not racism.

I'm not even sure why liberals are so testy: As an aficionado of liberal talk radio, I've heard both Ed Schultz and Randi Rhodes repeatedly say socialism is terrific. (Given their ratings, this is understandable.)

Most sickeningly, the mainstream media continue to spread the despicable lie

that someone called civil rights hero Rep. John Lewis the "N-word" 15 times during the anti-ObamaCare rally in Washington. Fifteen times! That turned out to be another lie. About a week after the protest, Andrew Breitbart offered a \$100,000 reward for anyone who could produce a video of Lewis being called the N-word even once -- forget 15 times.

(That's the most we can afford. Hey, who do we look like over here, George Soros?)

Plus, the winner might have his video appear on the new hit TV show, "America's Most Racist Home Videos."

With hundreds of news cameras, cell phone cameras and camcorders capturing every nook and cranny of the Capitol Hill protest -- and news media hungry for an ugly, racist act -- it defies possibility that someone called Lewis the N-word once, much less 15 times, without one single camera capturing the incident. And yet, to this day the reward remains unclaimed.

Democrats did their best to provoke an ugly confrontation by marching a (shockingly undiverse) group of black Democrats right through the middle of the anti-ObamaCare protest.

But they didn't get one, so the media just lied and asserted Lewis was called the N-word. (If they wanted to hear the N-word so badly, they should have sent the congressional delegation to a Jay-Z concert.) Indeed, news anchor after news anchor has indignantly claimed to have footage of the incident, teasing viewers by saying, "We'll get that right up" or claiming personally to have seen the video -- and then you watch the whole program without ever seeing footage of anyone calling Lewis the N-word.

Dateline: April 18, 2010, CNN's Don Lemon: "We have the tape here at CNN. I saw it on CNN's 'State of the Union.'" And yet, Lemon never got around to showing viewers that tape. IF YOU HAVE THE TAPE, DON, CLAIM YOUR \$100,000 REWARD! □

The Democrats' War on the West

Michelle Malkin

"Why do they hate us?" It's a burning question on the minds of border-dwelling taxpayers, small-business owners, farmers, and Rocky Mountain oil and gas industry workers suffering under punitive Democrat policies. Eighteen months into the Barack Obama administration, the war on the American West is in full swing.

The first battlefield: immigration. On Wednesday, Senate Democrats rejected a GOP amendment banning the use of federal funds to participate in any litigation against the new Arizona immigration enforcement law.

"Our federal government should be doing its job to secure our borders rather than trying to bully and intimidate the people of Arizona," argued Republican amendment sponsor Sen. Jim DeMint of South Carolina. "We should not be suing and really hassling the people of Arizona for doing what we should be doing here, and that's protecting the citizenry."

All but five Senate Democrats (Indiana's Evan Bayh took a pass and didn't vote) sided with the anti-Arizona Obama administration -- and against not only a majority of Arizonans, but a majority of Americans who support the state's effort to restore order on the chaotic southern border and protect American workers facing double-digit unemployment.

Several House Democrats have actively lobbied to boycott Arizona and crush its economy -- most notably, southern Arizona's own Democrat Rep. Raul Grijalva, who urged civic, religious and political groups to take their convention dollars elsewhere. "Do not do business with this state," Grijalva told open-borders zealots bent on punishing law-abiding citizens to "send a message." For its part, the Obama Justice Department's Civil Rights Division has targeted Maricopa County, Ariz., Sheriff Joe Arpaio for more than a year over his strict enforcement policies against illegal alien criminals. The hell-bent Civil Rights Division is helmed by veteran illegal immigration advocate Thomas Perez, who has lobbied for driver's licenses, in-state tuition discounts and blanket amnesty for millions of border-jumpers, visa overstayers

and deportation fugitives.

Arizona's neighbor to the north, Utah, is under fire by a different set of left-wing bureaucrats. When Interior Secretary Ken Salazar isn't busy destroying jobs through his radical offshore drilling moratorium, he's been blocking onshore development and wreaking havoc on the Beehive State's energy industry.

Last week, Salazar defended pulling 77 oil lease contracts granted in the final days of the George W. Bush administration. Salazar's inspector general concluded that there was no evidence of any rush to auction off the parcels -- as baselessly claimed by environmental groups and Salazar himself. In fact, the leases were granted only after seven full years of rigorous study and debate.

That makes two Salazar job-destroying bans based off bogus eco-claims. (Remember: Loathsome cowboy Salazar was behind the shameless doctoring of a scientific report to bolster the Obama administration's devastating offshore drilling ban.)

Utah County, Utah, officials have sued the Interior Department over the rescinded leases, which have cost the state untold millions of dollars and countless jobs in a tough economy. Not to mention the court expenses, legal morass and regulatory uncertainty.

Other Western states are reeling as a result of the Democrats' eco-radicalism -- and the rest of America is paying a high price, too. Salazar was a leading opponent of oil shale development when he served in the U.S. Senate for Colorado.

There are an estimated 800 billion barrels of recoverable oil shale in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming alone -- enough to potentially free us from Saudi oil dependence. Yet as Obama's interior secretary, Salazar has wielded his power to halt plans to lease oil shale rights in the West. In addition, Obama's Bureau of Land Management is dragging its feet on more than \$100 million in unissued oil and gas leases in Wyoming. These resources remain untapped thanks to militant greenies who pay lip service to energy independence while blocking all practical means of achieving it. □

Fuerzas armadas venezolanas advierten a Colombia que están listas

CARACAS (Reuters) - Las fuerzas armadas venezolanas advirtieron el viernes a Colombia que están preparadas para repeler un eventual ataque, en un claro apoyo al presidente Hugo Chávez luego de que rompió los lazos bilaterales con su vecino que lo acusó de albergar a guerrilleros.

La temperatura de las relaciones entre los países andinos subió cuando Colombia denunció el jueves ante la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) que Caracas estaría protegiendo a 1.500 guerrilleros de las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) y del Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN).

Casi de inmediato, Chávez rechazó las acusaciones, cortó las relaciones y puso en alerta a sus fuerzas armadas en la porosa frontera de 2.200 kilómetros que suele estar repleta de militares de ambas naciones.

“Cuenta el pueblo venezolano y el Gobierno colombiano con una

respuesta contundente por parte la Fuerza Armada Nacional Bolivariana (...) si fuerzas extranjeras intentasen de alguna manera violar el sagrado suelo”, dijo el ministro de Defensa, el general Carlos Mata, en un mensaje transmitido por el canal de televisión estatal, flanqueado por otros militares. El socialista Chávez dio el jueves un ultimátum de 72 horas para que los diplomáticos colombianos salieran del país y cerraran la embajada.

“Este es un atentado contra la patria que debe mover a los venezolanos”, declaró en conferencia de prensa la fiscal general de Venezuela, Luisa Ortega Díaz, sobre la acusación.

Pero especialistas no esperan que se llegue a un conflicto armado. Colombia, el mayor aliado de Washington en la región, aseguró el jueves que no planeaba enviar tropas a la frontera y autoridades venezolanas no reportaban el viernes un movimiento fuera de lo normal en el país petrolero miembro



Imagen de archivo del presidente de Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, recibiendo a su par colombiano Alvaro Uribe, en el Palacio Miraflores, Caracas. Abr 14 2009 REUTERS/Jorge Silva/ARCHIVOS

de OPEP.

Los principales cruces fronterizos estaban abiertos y las aduanas funcionaban con normalidad del lado venezolano. Los vuelos

comerciales entre Caracas y Bogotá seguían despegando. En Colombia la embajada venezolana estaba cerrada, pero el consulado funcionaba con normalidad.

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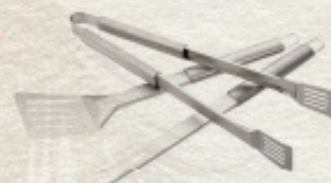
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